

UNRWA says officials to be freed soon

BEIRUT (R) — The director of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) in Lebanon said Saturday that two kidnapped Scandinavian colleagues would be released soon. "We are confident that our kidnapped colleagues will be released soon," Per Olof Hallquist said in a statement after talks with local leaders aimed at ending the men's three-week ordeal. "William Joergensen and Jan Stening are two hard-working men who have never been involved in any kind of irregular activities. The kidnapping from the beginning to its happy end, expected shortly, has been one big serious mistake," said Hallquist, a Swede. Stening, 44, of Sweden, and Joergensen, 37, a Norwegian, were seized near the southern city of Sidon on February 3. Hallquist issued his statement after talks in Sidon with Mustafa Saad, the head of the Popular Liberation Army, which controls the town. He later left for Vienna to meet other senior UNRWA officials. On Friday the previously unknown "Revolutionary Cells" group issued a statement, the third by a group claiming to hold the UNRWA staffers, saying it was questioning them and would release them when the interrogation was over (see page 2).

Jordan Times

An independent newspaper founded by the Jordanian People's Foundation
جوردان تايمز مؤسسة الشعب الأردنية

Mystery surrounds Delvalle

PANAMA CITY (AP) — Armed police sealed off the home of Panama's deposed president, Eric Arturo Delvalle, amid reports Saturday that he had sought sanctuary elsewhere. Raul Diaz, Delvalle's brother-in-law, said the ex-president left his home late Friday night "in protest himself" after being "warned to get out of the country." Diaz said the warning came from security agents under the command of Panama's military strongman, Manuel Antonio Noriega, who engineered Delvalle's removal from office early Friday (see page 8). Earlier Friday night, a visiting U.S. congressman said Delvalle was under house arrest but cryptically declined to reveal his whereabouts Saturday. The street leading to the ex-president's modest but modern home in an upper-class residential district was barricaded by police, and his phone was cut off. "We don't know where he is, but he has not left the country," Delvalle's mother-in-law, Augusta Strunz, told Reuters at his home. She said Delvalle shipped out of the tightly guarded house Friday night. A Panamanian colonel, Guillermo Wong, called at the house early Saturday morning to ask Delvalle to go into exile by midday, she said.

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Andreotti in Riyadh

RIYADH (AP) — Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti arrived from Damascus Saturday on the second leg of a Middle East tour to discuss regional problems, including the Iran-Iraq war. Andreotti, who will spend two days in the kingdom, was welcomed by his Saudi counterpart, Prince Saud Al Faisal. In a departure statement before leaving Damascus Andreotti said he discussed the full range of Middle East crises with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa. He said he would report back to other European leaders on his talks. Andreotti also met with Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam.

5 resistance men killed in attack on SLA

SIDON (R) — A militia said five of its fighters were killed in a four-pronged attack Saturday against positions of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia east of the southern town of Sidon. The Popular Liberation Front (PLA), headed by Mustafa Saad, said its guerrillas used machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades in a clash with the SLA on four fronts near the village of Kfar Falous. One SLA tank and other military vehicles and fortifications were destroyed in the attack, the PLA statement added.

Israeli vessel harasses businessmen

AMMAN (AP) — Prominent Egyptian and Jordanian businessmen said Saturday they were harassed in the Red Sea by an Israeli boat carrying armed men. The incident occurred at about 5 p.m. Friday as more than 60 businessmen were returning to Aqaba from an excursion to Faru Island, 35 kilometres south, Egyptian businessman Mohamed Ghannem said. "The Israeli boat came too close to us, as if trying to block our way," he said. "Our captain made a sharp turn trying to avoid a collision." Ghannem headed the Egyptian delegation in a meeting with prominent Jordanian businessmen to promote trade ties. A Jordanian businessman, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the Israeli vessel with 10 armed people aboard made "a couple of turns around us, causing high waves. I am sure they meant to scare us. We knew they were Israelis. There were things written in Hebrew on the boat."

Iran executes 5

NICOSIA (AP) — Five people accused of planting bombs in Iran were sentenced to death and executed Saturday, Tehran Television reported. The television did not identify the five nor say whether they were among 30 people arrested by security men for their responsibility in planting bombs in Tehran and western Iran in recent weeks. The television broadcast said: "The Islamic revolutionary court announced that five agents related to the global arrogance who were accused of planting bombs that caused some death and injuries, were sentenced to death and executed Saturday evening." It gave no other details. But Iranian leaders and the news media usually refer to the superpowers as global arrogance.

INSIDE

- U.N. preparing for debate on PLO mission, page 2
- Arab airlines discuss exchange of information, page 3
- Spend more, collect less and avoid deficit, page 4
- Workaholic Germans embrace easy life, page 5
- Liverpool scrapes past Portsmouth, page 6
- Nickel prices soar, page 7
- Casualties reported in Armenian unrest, page 8



Photo by Youssef Al Alami

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz (second from right) and Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh while the U.S. side included Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy (third from left)

Shultz discusses American ideas with Jordan, Syria

By Lamis K. Andoni with agency dispatches

AMMAN — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz Saturday discussed the new American initiative for peace in the Middle East with Jordanian and Syrian leaders.

Shultz flew to Amman early Saturday and held talks with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, and left for Damascus later in the day and met with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad. No joint statements were issued either in Amman or in Damascus, but Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri said in a statement Jordan was committed to its call for convening an international peace conference on the Middle East to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict.

According to well-informed sources, Jordan is not expected to disclose any details of the talks until Monday when Shultz will wind up his five-day tour of the region.

However, while Jordan has refrained from commenting on the nature of the new American initiative, Syria indicated Saturday that it was developing a more

flexible position. The indication came in a commentary by Damascus Radio saying that Syria saw signs of a possible shift in the American policy towards settling the Arab-Israeli conflict. Referring to U.S. President Ronald Reagan's statements at a news conference Wednesday night, the state radio said he was

veering away from the 1978 Camp David formula and looking for a comprehensive settlement because of the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories.

Syria saw in this "a great change in American policy which might lead to positive results," the radio said.

Prior to his departure from Amman after his four-hour visit, Shultz described his talks here as "constructive and thorough."

In comments to journalists at Marka airport, Shultz expressed appreciation for "the warm welcome" accorded to him and other (Continued on page 3)

Shultz fails to reach agreement with Syria

DAMASCUS (R) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa said Saturday they had failed to reach agreement on a new U.S. Middle East peace initiative after intensive talks here. "We expressed our opinion in a frank and open way but no

agreement was reached," Sharaa said at Damascus airport as the secretary of state prepared to leave for Israel after a meeting with President Hafez Al Assad. "I will just underline what the foreign minister said," Shultz replied. "We did not reach any agreement."

Iraqi planes bomb Iranian oil refineries

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Iraq said waves of its fighter-bombers attacked Iran's key oil refineries in Tehran and other cities Saturday in strikes aimed at crippling Iran's economy.

Iraq vowed to retaliate against Baghdad and the southern Iraqi port city of Basra for the attack on its capital, the first in several months. But an Iraqi military spokesman warned that if any Iraqi city was hit "all Iranian cities, including Tehran, will become targets for our missiles, air force jets and other weapons."

Tehran Radio said at least one person was killed and an undisclosed number were wounded in the raid on the capital's southern suburbs, but made no mention of other raids.

Saturday's raids raised anew the spectre of both sides renewing their intermittent "war of the cities" in which thousands of civilians have been killed since 1984. The Iraqi raids marked a sharp escalation in the stalemate seven-year-old Gulf war and came as Iraq's army braced for new Iranian ground offensives.

Tehran radio and the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said the air raids took place just before noon (0900 GMT).

INA reported the Iranian refineries were "destroyed... and shattered" and left shrouded in flames and smoke.

It did not give the location of the plant but diplomatic sources in Baghdad, in touch with embassies in Tehran, said the target was

the Rey refinery in the suburbs of the Iranian capital.

The Iraqi military spokesman said Saturday Baghdad had called a halt to the war of the cities so the world community could continue its efforts to end the conflict peacefully.

"Now that Tehran has rejected U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 and insisted on continuing the war, threatening to unleash the war of the cities... we warn (we will) wage deterrent strikes at the level of (Iran's) evil," the spokesman said.

The Rey refinery is Iran's second biggest operating refinery with an output of about 200,000 barrels per day (bpd) and has been raided before in the Iran-Iraq war. Its output compares with 240,000 bpd at the Isfahan plant 320 kilometres south of Tehran.

The Iraqi air force last attacked major economic targets deep inside Iran Feb. 11, when its Soviet-built MiG-21 and Sukhoi SU-20 fighter-bombers raided a power plant and fuel depots in south-west Iran and an electronic factory in Shiraz.

Baghdad said Friday that its warplanes hit a key road and rail bridge at Qatour near the Turkish border in mountainous northwest Iran.

The Iranian air force, despite chronic shortages of spares that have grounded most of its aging U.S.-made F-4 and F-5 planes, has also been in action recently, mainly attacking Iraqi defences and supply dumps around Basra.

Kaufman suggests British bid for peace talks

LONDON (Agencies) — The British government should step in to break the Arab-Israeli deadlock if U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz can't get agreement for an international peace conference during his Middle East tour, a foreign affairs spokesman for the opposition Labour Party said Saturday.

"Everybody who cares about the security and reputation of Israel must despair at the latest scenes of brutality by Israeli servicemen on the West Bank," Gerald Kaufman said.

A CBS-TV film clip broadcast on British Television Friday showed Israeli soldiers in the occupied West Bank kicking two Palestinians in the head and chest before trying to break their limbs with rocks (see page 2).

"Every time such scenes are shown on television, they do further damage to Israel," Kaufman said.

"The only way of ending these damaging events is for a peace settlement which provides security for Israel with self-determination for the Palestinians in their own country."

"The only way in which such a settlement can be achieved is through an international conference under the auspices of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council."

Two more killed, dozens injured in Palestinian revolt

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Two Palestinians were fatally shot and scores wounded in violent clashes with Israeli soldiers Saturday, and hundreds of Israeli Arabs demonstrated in solidarity with their brethren in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Anti-Israeli protests erupted throughout the occupied territories Saturday, a day after four Palestinians were shot dead.

In the Arrub refugee camp south of Bethlehem, soldiers fired teargas and live ammunition to disperse stone-throwing protesters, camp residents said.

A 20-year-old Arrub man, identified as Nihad Abdul Ghafour, died of gunshot wounds, said Dr. Hani Abdeen of Jerusalem's Mukassad hospital where the body was taken.

Abdeen said he treated 12 residents of Arrub and the nearby villages Halhoul and Dhahiriya for gunshot wounds. Five Arrub residents suffered broken limbs after being beaten by soldiers, he said.

A Halhoul resident died after being shot in the chest during clashes in the village, said a doctor at Hebron's Alia hospital.

The Palestine Press Service (PPS) identified the victim as baker Abdullah Al Bao, 17. Alia hospital officials also said they treated 15 Palestinians for gunshot wounds following protests in Halhoul, Arrub and Dhahiriya.

The deaths brought to 74 the unofficial death toll since the Palestinian uprising began Dec. 9.

Heavy fighting erupted around Alia hospital as the wounded were being treated.

Doctors battled in a vain attempt to save Bao's life as the battle raged around the hospital between soldiers firing live ammunition and teargas and dozens of stone-throwing Palestinians. Relatives snatched the body and disappeared with it outside.

Wounded demonstrators, including a boy with a bloody stump where a finger had been, staggered into Alia hospital as troops besieged the building for at least two hours.

The clash in Halhoul began when stone-throwing protesters brandishing the Palestinian flag were confronted by soldiers who fired an unidentified red gas.

Demonstrators stone Israeli Nicosia mission

NICOSIA (AP) — Demonstrators stoned the Israeli embassy Saturday, breaking several windows during a protest against Israeli measures against the Palestinians in the occupied territories.

About 200 Greek Cypriots broke through a police cordon and barbed wire barricades blocking access to the embassy building in a narrow suburban street.

Standing outside the tall wire fence of the embassy compound they burned an Israeli flag, threw stones at the building and chanted anti-Israeli slogans.

Police reinforcements managed to drive the protesters away within a few minutes. The demonstrators marched to the embassy after staging a protest rally in the capital's main square.

One of the placards carried by the demonstrators said "Dachau lives again," a reference to one of the Nazi camps.

Other placards said "Palestinians have a right to self-determination," and "Israel, stop killing Palestinians."

The demonstration coincided with the opening session in Nicosia of a hearing by the "International Secretariat of the Enquiry

Commission into Israeli Crimes against the Lebanese and Palestinian people."

Nasreen Bissio, a Palestinian woman expelled from the occupied territories two years ago, told the inquiry that according to the latest available information 138 Palestinians were killed and more than 2,000 have been seriously wounded since the uprising started Dec. 8.

The inquiry, which held its session at a Nicosia hotel, comprises European, Arab and legal personalities sympathetic with Arabs. It is headed by British lawyer John Platts-Mills, a queen's counsel.

Jabril Mahmoud Rubub, 35, one of four Palestinians expelled from the occupied territories by Israel last month, who said he had spent 17 years in Israeli prisons, gave extensive testimony to the inquiry about prison life conditions.

"Since there is no death penalty in Israel, they try to kill the prisoners through torture and ill-treatment," he said.

Rubub said the uprising "was the result of continuing unbearable Israeli oppression through the years and the denial of our right for self-determination as supported by U.N. resolutions."



A Palestinian, his hands bound, is surrounded by Israeli soldiers as he sits on the pavement after being arrested in Nablus

15 killed in Turkish plane crash in Cyprus

NICOSIA (Agencies) — A Turkish Boeing 727 crashed into mountains near the coastal resort city of Kyrenia in northern Cyprus Saturday, killing all 15 people aboard, rescue officials reported. The charter plane crashed 10 minutes before landing at Ercan airport, on the landward side of the mountains, in the Turkish Cypriot sector of the island, airport officials said.

There was no immediate word on what caused the crash at 10.20 a.m. (0820 GMT) 12.8 kilometres east of Kyrenia.

Ayhan Bolay, director of civil aviation in Turkey's Communications Ministry, said in Ankara that the weather was clear and communications were normal with the control tower as the plane approached Ercan.

In his last message to the tower, the pilot said: "I want to see the runway as I land," Bolay told reporters.

"Please confirm you sighted the runway," the tower responded and then radio contact with the plane was lost, he reported.

Officials said the plane was on a flight from Istanbul to pick up a group of Finnish tourists for a flight to Helsinki via Istanbul

scheduled for Sunday. The seven-member crew, including the pilot, two co-pilots and the flight engineer were Yugoslavs, airport officials in Istanbul said. They said two of the six stewardesses were British and the rest were Turkish.

Witnesses quoted by Reuters and the AP said bodies, some charred beyond recognition, were scattered along wreckage of the plane over wide area in the Kyrenia range.

"We heard the noise of an aircraft. Its drone was followed by a big bang," 15-year-old Cemal Sakallilar from the nearby village of Arapkyoi told Reuters at the crash scene.

Officials were investigating the cause of the crash, the first in the breakaway northern Cypriot republic since it was proclaimed unilaterally in 1983. Only Turkey recognises the republic.

Smoke was still rising from the crash site two hours after the plane ploughed into trees near an ancient crusader castle on the 950-metre peak of Bufavento.

Talya officials said the jet was their only aircraft but they had signed contracts with Boeing to lease a further six 727s.

Leap day — getting the calendar back on time

By Randolph E. Schmid
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Like Olympiads and U.S. presidential elections, leap day comes but once in four years. Monday's calendar adjustment, like setting a watch back in the fall to get an extra hour, adds a day in the year to keep in tune with nature.

For people born on prior February 29ths, it's an eagerly awaited chance to celebrate that doesn't occur every year. For some aged 80, perhaps having to list only 20 birthdays is a joy.

Others anxious for adulthood struggle to prove that five birthdays makes them old enough to vote and drive a car. Indeed, the problem was crucial for Frederick, the hero of Gilbert and Sullivan's "Pirates of Penzance," a young man born Feb. 29 and indentured until his 21st birthday.

For both the fun and frustration of this added day, render unto Julius Caesar the blame that is his.

Caesar wanted to make the calendar accurate, and it almost worked.

The day is designed to compensate for the fact that calendars count in whole days, 365 or 366 depending on the year, while it takes the earth 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes and 46 seconds to get around the sun.

Adding an extra day every fourth year helped compensate for that difference of about a quarter day, but problems became obvious as the Romans' inaccurate calendar got three months out of line with the seasons.

So, in 46 B.C., known ever since as the "Year of Confusion," Caesar added 67 days to the calendar to set it right again. And to keep the calendar accurate, he instituted the system of slipping in one more day on Feb. 29.

That reform, suggested by the Roman astronomer Sosigenes, became part of what is known as the Julian calendar and remained

in use for centuries. "There was one small problem: Sosigenes had done a little too much rounding off," explained Gail S. Cleere of the U.S. naval observatory.

Sosigenes had estimated the year at 365.25 days, while it really was 365.2422 days. That means Sosigenes was about 11 minutes off over the course of a year.

"Although Caesar and his astronomer were long gone before anyone noticed it, some 1,500 years later, 11 minutes per year had added up to a whopping 10 days," Cleere said. "And so, the seasons were slipping backwards again — spring into winter, winter into fall, and so on."

That prompted the current calendar, instituted by Pope Gregory in 1582, who dropped the offending 10 days — a change that took a while to be accepted in non-Catholic countries. Indeed, England and her colonies didn't join until 1752, by which time the error had grown to 11 days. Japan came over in 1873, China in 1911 and Russia held out until its Bolshevik Revolution in 1917.

That's why many history books refer to dates during the transition period as either "old style" or "new style" depending on whether a country was following the Julian or Gregorian calendar at the time.

In addition to dropping the added days, Pope Gregory ruled that not every fourth year would be a leap year.

In the Gregorian calendar, centennial years are leap years only if they can be divided evenly by 400.

Thus, the year 2000 will be somewhat unusual in being a leap year. The last centennial leap year was 1600, the next will be 2400. The calendar's still not perfect, Cleere admits, with the Gregorian year still 26 seconds too long. But that only amounts to a bit over a half-hour per century, so it will be a long time before any further adjustments need to be made.

Kidnappers promise to free UNRWA officials after 'interrogation'

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The kidnappers of two Scandinavian officials of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) have said they would free the men after they have been interrogated.

"We are still interrogating them in light of preliminary information," a hand-written Arabic language statement said. "We promise everybody that we shall release them once the investigation is over."

The statement, signed by the Revolutionary Cells and delivered to a Western news agency in west Beirut late Friday, gave no timetable for freeing Jan Stening, 44, of Sweden and William Jorgensen, 58, of Norway.

The statement was the third purportedly issued by the kidnappers, but the first to identify the previously unknown group holding the missing men.

They were kidnapped Feb. 5 near Sidon, provincial capital of South Lebanon, as they were driving from the ancient port city of Tyre to Beirut.

The statement, headed "communiqué No. 3," was similar to the earlier ones which said the U.N. officials were seized for interrogation in connection with alleged links to an unnamed foreign secret service.

Friday's statement carried what appeared to be the signatures of Stening and Jorgensen as well as their purported fingerprints, as the earlier statement had.

But the latest statement also included messages written in En-

glish, apparently by the two captives.

One message above Stening's signature said: "I am in good health and I hope that I will be released soon."

The other, purportedly written by Jorgensen, said: "I am in good health and am eating good. Also I hope to be released very soon."

The statement raised hopes that a breakthrough had been achieved in negotiations to free the two officials.

It came after U.N. Under-Secretary-General Marrack Goulding said in Stockholm that the two Scandinavians were caught up in an "internal conflict" which had nothing to do with their work for UNRWA, which cares for Palestinian refugees.

Goulding said secret contacts were underway with "people who might have influence" on the kidnappers to release the captives.

He refused to identify the kidnappers and declined comment when asked if they were Palestinians or Lebanese.

UNRWA spokesmen had earlier blamed the abductions on Palestinians acting independently of guerrilla organisations and for personal motives.

The kidnappers were originally reported to be Palestinian guerrillas. But Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials said the missing men were not held by any guerrilla faction.

Friday's statement said: "We repeat our appeal to all Palestinian leaderships to stop making accusations. We also repeat that we appreciate the services rendered by UNRWA to the Palestinian people."

It pleaded with UNRWA to reverse its decision to cut its services in Lebanon because of the kidnappings.

The agency evacuated its foreign staff from west Beirut and said it was reducing its medical, educational and social services for the 280,000 Palestinian refugees in Lebanon to the barest minimum following the abductions.

"I'm not sure if (the abduction) was directed against either UNRWA or the individuals. It may be the very unfair involvement of UNRWA staff in some internal conflict," said Goulding.

When asked to elaborate, he said he had said more than he intended. "No further details. I've already broken my rules," he said.

"I don't know the names and addresses of the kidnappers," Goulding told a news conference. But he disagreed with the characterisation by a Swedish reporter of the abductors as "a small faction of hooligans."



Israeli soldiers drag a Palestinian boy from his home in the West Bank

Israeli troops storm hospital, beat up Palestinian patients

NABLUS, occupied West Bank (Agencies) — Israeli troops stormed a hospital in the West Bank city of Nablus Thursday and beat patients and nurses, according to Palestinian witnesses.

Doctors said an Israeli officer told them at the time that the soldiers raided the Al Itihad hospital after hearing a shot fired from the building.

Soldiers broke doors down, searched nurses' living quarters and the roof, Palestinian witnesses told Reuters. Later, two lorries and as many as 30 jeeps surrounded the hospital.

"All the people, because they were afraid, started to shout and many girls started to cry," said Jameel Ibrahim, a nurse who was on duty.

After staff locked the doors, the troops broke into the hospital through a balcony, a doctor said.

"They took the I.V. from my arm and threw me on the ground and started kicking me," said Amr Mohammad Mostapha Jamos, a 16-year-old treated for a bullet wound in the leg.

He said he could see two other people getting kicked in the cor-

ridor. Ahmad Mahmoud Abdul Rahman Ahn Layla, a 20-year-old suffering from obstruction of the veins after an appendectomy, was one of three patients dragged from hospital beds and into the street, he said.

Many doors were broken in the hospital, where more than 400 people have been treated for wounds since the Palestinian uprising began in the occupied territories Dec. 9.

Mahmoud Mesharka said that when he heard screams and panic, he pulled an intravenous drip from his arm and climbed onto a balcony to hide.

"Soldiers came into the room, but they didn't find anyone," said the 18-year-old, who was treated for a bullet wound in the leg.

When soldiers began beating two men in his room, 39-year-old Rachea Nimr Mahmoud Issa said, she tried to help defend them.

"There was some food here (on a tray). I threw it on them," she said. "They hit me in the face with their hands."

Israeli soldiers were shown on U.S. and European television

Friday deliberately breaking the arms of Palestinians detained in Nablus.

The film shot by CBS news Thursday, in which soldiers systematically shattered two Palestinians' arms with rocks, sparked outrage when it was screened in Britain and France on Friday.

It took the soldiers 40 minutes to break the limbs of the Palestinians, who offered no resistance.

The senior Israeli commander in the West Bank, Major-General Amram Mitzna, said he personally ordered an immediate military police investigation.

The army flew CBS correspondent Boh Simon with military police investigators to Nablus to help identify the soldiers involved from the videotape.

Israel Radio said the Palestinians beaten in the Nablus incident had earlier thrown stones at soldiers.

A British Foreign Office spokesman said later: "We have watched the scenes on TV with shock and horror. We have consistently called upon the Israeli authorities to act in a humane manner."

Higgins kidnap sharpens Amal-Hizbollah differences

TYRE (AP) — The kidnapping of a U.S. marine colonel has sharpened differences between rival militias vying for control of Lebanon's 1.2 million Muslims, the country's largest sect. Gunmen of the Iranian-backed fundamentalist Hizbollah have clashed several times with the more secular Amal militia since Lieutenant-Colonel William R. Higgins was abducted Feb. 17 near this southern port by gunmen believed linked to Hizbollah.

Officials do not believe the confrontation will erupt into an all-out war between the two movements. But leaders of Amal view the kidnapping of Higgins as a major challenge to their authority and to that of their main backer, Syria.

Higgins, 43, commanded the UNTSO, an observer group attached to the United Nations peacekeeping force in South Lebanon.

Amal has repeatedly denounced hostage-taking, and has

played a role in freeing some foreign captives held by Hizbollah-linked Shi'ite extremists since 1984.

It has launched a major drive for Higgins and his kidnappers, a move that has angered the militant fundamentalists.

Heavily armed Amal fighters have rounded up 42 Hizbollah members in raids in the Tyre region. Amal sources asserted that six of them are "directly involved in the kidnapping."

"For us, the abduction of Higgins is a red line that others should not have crossed," said Daoud Daoud, Amal's senior military commander in South Lebanon.

"Amal views Higgins' abduction as a deliberate challenge. We want Higgins back."

The Amal-Hizbollah tension in the south has spread to west Beirut and the Syrian-policed Bekaa Valley in east Lebanon, with sporadic gunbattles and fistfights between members of the rival



William Higgins

Shi'ite movements.

Amal has an estimated hardcore strength of 6,000 and Hizbollah 4,000, but both can mobilise thousands more fighters when needed.

Amal's leader, Justice Minister Nabih Berri, has not openly accused Hizbollah of kidnapping Higgins. But the abduction was claimed by the Organisation of the Oppressed on Earth.

TV & RADIO	
JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 77311-19	23:00 News Summary 23:57 News Headline 24:00 Close Down
PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30 Koran	
15:45 Programme Review	
15:55 Cartoons	
16:05 Dennis the Menace	
16:25 Children's programmes	
17:20 Isma	
17:45 Local programme	
18:20 Soccer	
19:10 Local agricultural programme	
19:45 Programme review	
20:30 News in Arabic	
21:30 Programme on Arabic	
22:00 T.V. Magazine (local)	
23:00 News Summary	
23:10 Close down	
PROGRAMME TWO	
18:00 Rue Carnot	
18:30 L'Ecole des Fous	
19:00 News in French	
19:15 International Circus Festival	
19:30 News in Hebrew	
19:45 Varieties	
20:00 Crime on Good Island	
20:30 Farrington of the F.O.	
21:10 The Making of a Continent (documentary)	
22:00 News in English	
22:30 Secret Army	
RADIO JORDAN 555 KHz. AM & 99 MHz FM & partly on 9600 KHz. SW Tel: 77411-19	
07:00 Light Music	
07:30 Newsdesk	
08:00 Morning Show	
10:00 News Summary	
11:05 In Concert	
12:00 News Summary	
12:05 Pop Talk	
13:00 News Summary	
13:05 Pop Session contd.	
14:00 News Bulletin	
14:30 Science Report	
14:50 Concert Hour	
15:00 News Summary	
15:05 Instrumentals	
16:00 News Summary	
16:05 Instrumentals	
16:30 Old Favourites	
17:00 Listeners' Choice	
18:00 News Summary	
18:05 Rhythm and Blues	
19:00 Newsdesk	
19:30 Date with a Star	
20:00 Evening Show	
21:00 News Summary	
21:05 Evening Show continued	
21:55 News Summary	
22:00 Evening Show continued	

WHAT'S GOING ON	
TODAY'S EVENTS	
EXHIBITIONS	
* A photo exhibition about architecture in Spain at the Spanish Cultural Centre (until March 3).	
* An exhibition of prints by Rima Fathi at the Gallery of the Jordan International Hotel (until Feb. 29).	
* An exhibition to commemorate German composer Heinrich Schütz and Johann Bach at Yarmouk University (until March 3).	
* An exhibition entitled "From Gothenburg to Electronics" at Goethe Institute (runs through March 8).	
JAPANESE FILMS	
* Japanese film show (submitted in Arabic) at 7:00 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre.	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 660267	
American Centre .. 646771	
American Centre Library .. 646771	
British Council .. 6361478	
French Cultural Centre .. 637009	
Goethe Institute .. 646203	
Soviet Cultural Centre .. 637009	
Spanish Cultural Centre .. 637009	
Turkish Cultural Centre .. 637009	
Haya Arts Centre .. 6671816	
Hussien Youth City .. 6671816	
Y.W.C.A. .. 666251	
Y.W.M.C.A. .. 637111	
Amman Municipal Library .. 843555	
Univ. of Jordan Library .. 843555	
MUSEUMS	
* "Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.	
* Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 3 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.	

FOR THE TRAVELLER	
QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06) 5300-5, where it should always be verified.	
ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)	
09:15 Agaba (RJ)	
09:30 Kuwait (RJ)	
09:45 Jeddah (RJ)	
09:55 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)	
10:00 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)	
10:05 Cairo (RJ)	
10:15 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)	
10:20 Paris (RJ)	
10:25 Madrid, Rome (RJ)	
10:30 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)	
10:35 Frankfurt (RJ)	
10:40 Brussels, Geneva (RJ)	
10:45 Baghdad (RJ)	
OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)	
09:00 Berlin (IF)	
09:35 Cairo (MS)	
11:20 Damascus (AZ)	
12:00 Kuwait (RJ)	
12:45 Sharjah, Doha (GF)	
12:55 Jeddah (SV)	
13:00 Kuwait (RJ)	
13:05 Baghdad (IA)	
13:10 Athens (CA)	
13:15 Saraj (CA)	
13:20 Cairo (MS)	
PRAYER TIMES	
06:43 Fajr	
07:00 Sunrise	
11:48 Dhuhr	
15:03 Asr	
17:25 Maghrib	
18:53 Isha	
MONEY EXCHANGE	
Saturday rates	
Belgian franc .. 95/5	96/9
Dutch guilder .. 177/7	180/3
French franc .. 38/9	39/8
Italian lira .. 21/1	22/5
Japanese yen (for 100) .. 262/2	267/1
Swedish crown .. 56/4	57/2
Swiss franc .. 242/2	246/5
U.K. sterling pound .. 371/3	371/1
U.S. dollar .. 337/2	342/1
W. German mark .. 199/5	202/8
WEATHER	
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.	
It will be partly cloudy with scattered showers, accompanied by a little decrease in temperature. In Agaba, it will be partly cloudy with southerly moderate winds and slightly rough seas.	
DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)	
07:00 Agaba (RJ)	
11:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)	
11:05 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)	
12:30 Cairo (RJ)	
13:35 Kuwait (RJ)	
13:40 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)	
13:45 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)	
13:50 Sharjah, Doha (GF)	
13:55 Jeddah (SV)	
14:00 Kuwait (RJ)	
14:05 Baghdad (IA)	
14:10 Athens (CA)	
14:15 Saraj (CA)	
14:20 Cairo (MS)	
14:25 London, Cairo (RJ)	
14:30 Damascus (AZ)	

U.N. prepares for special session on PLO mission

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The United Nations is preparing for an emergency session of the General Assembly next week to debate U.S. efforts to close the U.N. observer mission of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Scheduled to last at least three days, the session comes at a time of sensitive Middle East negotiations by Secretary of State George P. Shultz in an effort to end the Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

Officials said Friday the General Assembly may leave New York next September if the United States insists on shutting the PLO mission here.

The United Nations invited the PLO to take part in U.N. meetings without the right to vote and the threat to close its mission has put the United States on a collision course with the world body.

Officials said there was a real threat that the specially reconvened session of the General Assembly next week might agree to move the 43rd General Assembly, opening Sept. 13, to Geneva or Vienna.

The U.N. has subsidiary headquarters in both places.

U.N. financial experts were directed to cost a possible switch and report urgently to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar so that he could put the data before the assembly, officials said.

The United Nations is in grave financial difficulties because of the failure of the United States and other members to pay their assessed dues. Perez de Cuellar, therefore, is trying to hold down expenditures.

U.N. Press Secretary Francois Guiliani said he was sure it would be more costly for the organisation to hold a three-month General Assembly session away from New York.

Delegates opposed to any move said they hoped that mem-

bers would back away from the idea if they were "scared" by Perez de Cuellar's financial estimate.

The U.S. Congress approved "anti-terrorist" legislation directing the Justice Department to close the 13-year-old mission, although the State Department said this would violate the headquarters agreement between Washington and the United Nations.

In a report to the General Assembly Friday, the secretary general said the United States had ignored his request that it name a member for a three-person arbitration panel.

The PLO and the Arab League previously have said they might seek to move the General Assembly from New York to Geneva if the PLO office is closed. They also could seek a ruling by the International Court of Justice.

Diplomats mapping the anti-U.S. strategy Friday gave no details on their plan of action beyond offering a resolution. It was unclear how they might stop the U.S. action.

U.N. officials preparing for the session said there would be at least two full days of speeches Monday and Tuesday. A resolution urging the United States to let the mission operate was to be introduced Wednesday.

A draft resolution approved Friday by the Arab League states that the United States is legally obliged to let the PLO operate and calls the U.S. legislation "a blatant violation" of the headquarters agreement.

It says the United States is trying to "frustrate" the agreement's procedure for dispute settlement, and promises to reconvene no later than March 18 if the threat to close the PLO mission continues.

It also calls on the United States to promise it will not interfere with the work of the PLO mission.

Ozal not contemplating any new initiative to end Gulf war

ANKARA (Agencies) — After acting to reduce tension with Bulgaria and Greece to the west, Turkey's Prime Minister Turgut Ozal steps up his quest to maintain his country's balancing act with Iran and Iraq with a visit to Tehran Sunday.

Ozal, due to visit Iraq in April plans in Tehran to discuss the Iran-Iraq war and economic and border cooperation.

Officials say Ozal is not taking any fresh initiatives to Tehran to end the seven-and-a-half-year-old war but that during his three-day trip he will stress that neither side can win.

"There will be suggestions to halt the war and we will, as usual, do everything possible. Its continuation is not in the interest of either side," a Foreign Ministry source said.

Ozal and Iran's Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi will discuss a proposed Iranian crude oil export pipeline, ways to boost trade, road transport and border cooperation to help end a Kurdish rebel insurgency in south-eastern Turkey.

"The two countries understand each other very well," Mousavi told the Anatolian news agency in Tehran. "Relations should be free from the influence of the United States and NATO. This has proved to be so in recent years."

Turkey, which also borders the Soviet Union, is a member of the Western alliance and gives the United States military base and eavesdropping facilities in return for cash aid. Ozal will attend a NATO summit in Brussels March 2-3.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate 891228
Amman Civil Defence 198, 199
Civil Defence Irbid 271293, 273131
Civil Defence Quesnach 770733
Civil Defence Deir Alla 57306
Ambulance 195, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade 198
First aid 63041
Blood Bank 778203
Civil Defence rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 622090-3
Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters 896391
Traffic police 636351/4, 624881
Electric Power Co. 636351/4, 624881
Municipal water complaints 77125/8
Queen Alia Int. Airport (06)333040

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Wa'el Khartabil 615035
Dr. Ammar Agrabawi 642696
Dr. A. Najjar 775050
Dr. Mahmoud Jaber 660691
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asasa pharmacy 637055
Natrouh pharmacy 626762
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

TAKES:
Alram taxi 663911
Venecia taxi 644584
Palestine taxi 671743
Shmeisani taxi 644574
Mehyar taxi 644574
Khayyam taxi 641577
Jordan taxi 623050
Asma taxi 844503

IRBID:
Dr. Amin Abu Eldah 244468
Shamir pharmacy 275825

ZARQA:
Dr. Ghada Akari 991355
Khalifah pharmacy 985417

HOSPITALS

Husseini Medical Centre 81381/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn. 64281/6
Atikah Maternity, J. Amn. 64244/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Mishal, J. Amman 636140
Palestine Shmeisani 66417/14
Shmeisani Hospital 629131
University Hospital 64584/65
Al-Muasher Hospital 66722/19
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/57
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6
Italian, Al-Muljamein 77101/5
Al-Bashir, J. Adrafiyah 669131
Army, Marka 89181/15
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Amal Hospital 674155

GENERAL

Jordan Television 773111/19
Radio Jordan 774111/19
Ministry of Tourism 642311
Hotel complaints 664612
Price complaints 661176
Telephone information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 1004
Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in lbs per kg.

Apple (French)	220 / 350	Grapefruit	150 / 100
Apple (green)	470 / 400	Lebanon	160 / 120
Banana	350 / 300	Maudia	160 / 120
Banana (Muskatmar)	300 / 240	Mayrow	270 / 230
Beans	640 / 560	Onion (green)	270 / 230
Beans (brown)	440 / 380	Onion (dry)	220 / 170
Cabbage	150 / 130	Oranges (Abu surra)	350 / 280
Carrot (black)	250 / 120	Telegah (Shammouth)	330 / 270
Carrot (yellow)	250 / 200	Pepper (red)	480 / 400
Cauliflowers (white)	200 / 150	Potato	360 / 300
Cucumbers	200 / 140	Potato (new)	360 / 300
Dates (box)	700 / 600	Raddish	100 / 80
Eggplant (large)	400 / 300	Spinach	160 / 120



ROYAL DECREE: A Royal Decree was issued approving a new board of directors for the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund QAF. The board will be chaired by Her Royal Highness Princess Basma and will include the following: Minister of Labour and Social Development Rashid Ureikat, Minister of Planning Taher Kanaan, Minister of Industry and Trade Hamdi Tabbaa, former Minister of Industry Rajai Muasher, Mr. Walid Asfour, Dr. Abdullah Nsour, Mr. Ali Ghandour, Mr. Ziyad Imah, Mr. Saad Al Tal, Mr. Farouq Al Zubi, Mr. Khalidoun Abu Hassan, Mrs. Nazeq Al Hariri and Mrs. Sihan Al Qasem. The board will serve for three years.

EXHIBITION: The under secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade Mohammad Saqqaf has opened the permanent exhibition of Jordanian industrial products for 1988 held at the Greater Amman Municipality building downtown. The exhibition will last until Friday, March 4, 1988. Saqqaf toured parts of the exhibition and inspected items on display.

MINISTER LEAVES: Minister of Agriculture Marwan Al Hmoud Saturday left for Saudi Arabia heading a Jordanian delegation on a one-day official visit at the invitation of his Saudi counterpart Dr. Abdul Rahman Al Sheikh for talks on enhancing and strengthening bilateral agricultural cooperation. The two ministers will also discuss facilitating the exchange of agricultural products between the markets of both countries.

PILGRIMAGE: Only 15,000 Jordanians can perform the pilgrimage season, according to Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat. The minister was quoted by Al Dustour Arabic Daily as saying that would-be-pilgrims will have to pay JD 275,250 if they want to travel by air-conditioned buses and JD 250,250 by ordinary buses. The sum covers the trip to Mecca and back, and accommodation in the holy places, he said. Those travelling by air would have to pay JD 193 in addition to the air fare.

PARLIAMENT: The Upper House of Parliament today meets under the chairmanship of speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi. The Lower House of Parliament's Financial Committee Saturday discussed the 1986 annual report of the Audit Bureau. The house's legal committee also discussed a draft amendment to the 1988 law of the Water Authority of Jordan.

Soviet delegation voices support for Arab causes

AMMAN (Petra) — A visiting delegation led by the chairman of the Religious Affairs Council in the Soviet Union Constantine Kharachev Saturday met with Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat to discuss cooperation between Jordan and the Soviet Union in cultural and Islamic affairs.

Khayyat told the delegation that Jordan appreciates the Soviet Union's stand vis-a-vis Arab causes and the Palestine issue.

Khayyat briefed the visiting Soviet delegation about Israel's practices in the occupied Arab territory and its arson attempts at Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem.

The minister also presented to the delegation photos of incendiary bombs used by the Israelis to burn the holy shrine.

The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Secretary General Abdul Salam Al Ahbadi briefed the delegation on the ministry's programmes in religious guidance and other religious activities in the Kingdom.

Kharachev for his part conveyed greetings from the Soviet people to the Jordanian people and renewed Moscow's support for Arab just causes. The Soviet Union is concerned and deeply pained at the inhuman practices of the Israeli authorities against the defenceless Arab people of Palestine who are struggling to achieve freedom, Kharachev said. He also said that Moscow supports all steps for ending occupation and appreciates the Arab Nation's endeavours to find a just solution for the Afghan problem.

Kharachev later paid a visit to the King Abdullah Mosque at Abdali. He also toured the Al Hussein Medical Centre where he met hospital officials who briefed him on medical services to the armed forces and members of the public. The Soviet guest later called at the Royal Farah Rehabilitation Centre in the company of officials and the accompanying delegation.

Jordan to attend UNRWA meeting

AMMAN (Petra+I.T.) — Jordan is taking part in an extraordinary conference organized in Vienna by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) to discuss the agency's services to the Palestinian refugees in view of the current situation in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Representatives of major donor countries to UNRWA's budget as well as delegates from Arab countries hosting Palestinian refugees are taking part in the meeting, called for by UNRWA's Commissioner General Giorgio Giacomelli.

Jordan is represented at the two-day meeting by the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs Secretary General Ahmad Qatanani who left for the Austrian capital Saturday.

The meeting is expected to discuss means of raising more contributions from the donor countries to help UNRWA carry out additional tasks in its drive to provide relief services to the refugees in the occupied Arab territory. The donor countries normally hold their annual meeting

in the summer, but Giacomelli called for the meeting now in view of the urgent need to provide help to the refugees in the present circumstances, according to Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs officials.

Giacomelli is also expected to chair an emergency meeting of UNRWA's Advisory Commission to discuss the current situation in the occupied territories. The commission groups Belgium, Egypt, France, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Khayyat, Majali discuss West Bank students' affairs

AMMAN (Petra + I.T.) — Minister of Awqaf and Religious Affairs Abdul Aziz Khayyat Saturday visited the University of Jordan to discuss measures for providing assistance to students cut off from their families in the occupied Arab territory.

The minister met with university President Abdul Salam Majali and discussed with him the allocation of monthly allowances of JD 50 for each of these students. There are at least 208 students who have lost contacts with their families in the occupied West Bank and they do not receive any more financial assistance. In an interview with Al Dustour Arabic daily that appeared Saturday Khayyat said the total number of students seeking the Ministry of Awqaf's help reached 1,100. Majali voiced the university's appreciation for the Ministry of Awqaf's efforts to provide help to the students.

Arab health ministers launch survey on children welfare

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Rashid Ureikat Saturday returned home after a visit to Saudi Arabia where he took part in a meeting by the executive bureau of the Arab social affairs ministers, and another by the higher steering committee on promoting Arab children's welfare.

During the meetings a document was signed by Arab ministers for initiating a survey of health and socio-economic conditions of children in the Arab World. The survey will be conducted in Egypt, Sudan, North Yemen, and Somalia.

The survey, according to Ureikat will be sponsored and financed by the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Agencies (AGFUND) which is chaired by Saudi Arabia's Prince Talal Ibn Abdul Aziz.

Ureikat said that AGFUND would be assisted in this \$3 million programme by U.N. agencies and the Arab League, but the countries in question will offer facilities and expertise. According to the minister, the second stage of this survey would begin in 1989 and would cover the rest of the Arab countries with the exception of the Gulf Cooperation Council states.

The aim of the survey, Ureikat said, is to define problems and needs of Arab children prior to drawing up strategies for improving the children's social, health and economic status.

Saudi crown prince receives Rawabdeh

RIYADH (Petra) — Saudi Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz Saturday received Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'uf Al Rawabdeh and an accompanying delegation currently on a visit to Saudi Arabia. During the meeting the two sides discussed existing relations between the municipalities of Greater Amman and Riyadh and efforts to strengthen these relations. Rawabdeh presented Prince Abdullah with the flag of Amman city and a model of Petra, Rawabdeh and the accompanying delegation also attended the opening of a tree-planting week organised by Riyadh municipality.

Arab airlines discuss exchange of information

AMMAN (Petra + I.T.) — The public relations committee of the Arab Air Carriers Organisation (AACO) opened a meeting at the Plaza Hotel in Amman Saturday to discuss coordination and cooperation among Arab airlines in the exchange of information related to civil aviation in the Arab World.

Arab airlines in civil aviation matters, in addition to issues related to the new gazette.

Touqan said that the 17-member AACO strives to maximise coordination among Arab airlines in confronting challenges, and in dealing with civil aviation developments.

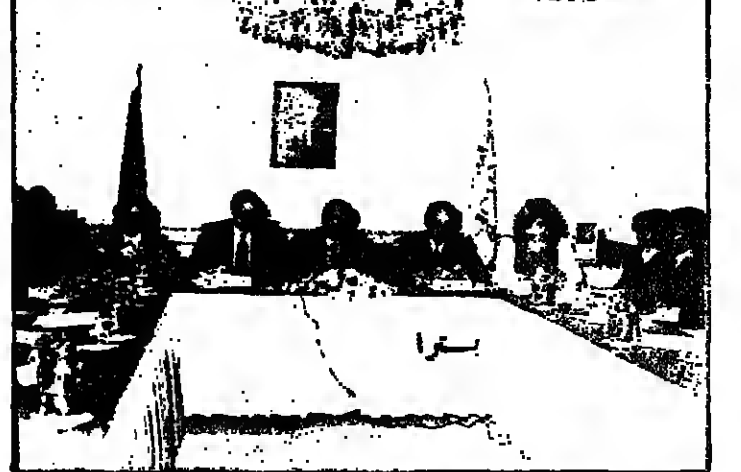
Addressing the opening session Royal Jordanian Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Ali Ghandour underlined the importance of the organisation's activities in achieving the objectives of various Arab airlines. Public relations serve as a bridge between Arab civil aviation and the Arab people on the one hand and the world at large on the other, Ghandour said.

The six-day meeting, he said, will concentrate on transforming the present Arab Wings circular into a specialised aviation gazette to be distributed by all Arab airlines.

Royal Jordanian public relations director Munib Touqan said that the committee will also discuss coordination among various

At the opening session, Touqan who is also Royal Jordanian vice chairman was elected as chairman of AACO's higher committee for the coming two years.

AACO which was established in 1965, normally publishes monthly statistical bulletins and research documents on aviation in the Arab World.



Royal Jordanian Chairman Ali Ghandour Saturday chairs a meeting of 17 Arab airlines executives discussing airline cooperation and exchange of data (Petra photo)

Americans, fill your tax forms

AMMAN (I.T.) — A representative of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is visiting Amman as of today and for three days until March 1, 1988, to answer questions and provide assistance in preparing 1987 U.S. federal tax returns, the American Embassy has announced.

It said the IRS representative will be located in the consular section of the embassy, telephone number 64371, extension 238, where tax forms and publications are available.

The IRS regional office in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia now has a full time taxpayer service specialist on the staff to answer inquiries. Written inquiries can be addressed to: Revenue Service representative, American Embassy — IRS, P.O. Box 9041, Riyadh 11413, Saudi Arabia.

Following are tax tips for American citizens and Jordanian "green card" holders: **Dependents** — To claim children and other dependents on your return, they must have their own social security number. A number can be obtained through the consular section at the American Embassy. For this year only, IRS will not impose a penalty for failure to supply a dependent's social security number if one has been requested. After applying, file your return and note "applied for" in the block asking for the number.

Resident aliens of the U.S. — Those with "green cards" and other aliens who are physically present in the U.S. for a substantial period of time, must file a tax return for 1987 under the same

rules that apply to U.S. citizens. For more information about the Substantial Presence Test, ask for Publication 519, U.S. Tax Guide for Aliens, at the American Embassy.

Foreign earned income exclusion — A major change for overseas taxpayers is the reduction in the foreign earned income exclusion from \$80,000 to \$70,000 for 1987 and subsequent years. Foreign earned income is income from wages, salaries and commissions or earnings from self-employment. Interest and dividends do not qualify for the exclusion. Earned income includes all compensation from your employer. This would include salary plus the value of housing, company car, home leave and R&R expenses, school expenses for children and other fringe benefits. The earned income exclusion is not automatic. You must elect it on a timely filed return or it could be lost forever. In other words, if you don't file a return, income which could have been excluded may be fully taxed. A timely filed return for this purpose is one filed by the due date (including any extensions) or April 15th of the year after the year the return should have been filed, whichever is later. For a 1987 return that means April 15, 1988. The election should be made on Form 2555, Foreign Earned Income Exclusion.

Other items of interest A number of other very basic deductions were repealed by the Tax Reform Act of 1986, at least one of which effects virtually every American taxpayer. Some other basic deductions and credits remained unchanged. Let me just mention these changes so that you are aware of them: **Items repealed** a.) the itemized deduction for state and local sales taxes b.) the exclusion for dividends c.) the 60% reduction for long term capital gains d.) the deduction for married couples when both are working e.) income averaging f.) the credit for political contributions g.) the three year recovery rule for pensions and annuities that began after July 1, 1986 — i.e. the non-taxable payments you made for your annuity must now be recovered over your life expectancy h.) the extra exemptions for being over 65 and for blindness — these have been replaced by a higher standard deduction. **Major items not changed** a.) the itemized deduction for real estate taxes b.) the itemized deduction for state and local income taxes c.) the timeized deduction for personal property taxes d.) the credit for child and dependent care e.) the credit for the elderly or the permanently and totally disabled. That, very briefly covers the major changes we all will face as we prepare our 1987 tax returns — I want to thank you very much for asking me to speak with you today. If there are any questions I would be happy to try to answer them.

Shultz discusses American ideas with Jordan and Syria

(Continued from page 1)

American officials accompanying him on his visit to Jordan.

Masri, who also spoke to reporters at Marka, and Shultz called for a "comprehensive" settlement to the Middle East problem without elaborating. But, while Shultz adhered to general terms, Masri reiterated Jordan's commitment to the idea of settling the Arab-Israeli conflict through an international conference.

"We believe that a settlement can be reached only through an international conference attended by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and with the participation of all parties involved, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)," Masri said.

According to press reports, the new American initiative calls for immediate talks on Palestinian "self-rule" in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza and "negotiations" before December to decide the "final status" of the occupied territories.

In his comments to reporters Saturday, Masri welcomed the U.S. efforts "to revitalise the peace process," but indicated that any acceptable plan should lead to an international conference. The foreign minister said the Soviet Union should also be included in the current consultations and efforts for peace.

Shultz said that during his talks here, Prime Minister Rifaat outlined the major elements of the Jordanian position. "... I am not going to make any substantive comment," he said. But he added that both the U.S. and Jordan agreed that the objective was to find "comprehensive peace that will achieve stability and prosperity in the region."

Shultz is expected back in Amman Monday following his consultations with the leaders of Syria, Egypt and Israel.

"Serious and intensive"

In a briefing to the Council of Ministers later Saturday, Rifaat described the Jordanian-American talks as "serious and intensive." The talks focused on means to find a just and comprehensive peaceful settlement to the Middle East problem, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported.

Rifaat said that during the meeting

Shultz outlined the main principles of the new American peace initiative. The prime minister said the Jordanian side discussed with the U.S. official the American proposals and on "whether they draw the American position closer to or away from the Arab stand."

Rifaat reiterated that the Arab position "which rejects partial and separate peace settlements and adheres to the idea of convening an international conference on the basis of U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338 and should address the Palestinian problem in all its aspects and realise the legitimate Palestinian rights."

Israeli position

Shultz was faced with a divided Israeli position over the new proposed American plan. According to news agencies reports, Shamir told Shultz there should be "a time of testing" up to three years before negotiations on a final settlement in the occupied territories.

A journalist accompanying Shultz told the Jordan Times that Israeli sources believe that Shamir was trying to avoid "a discussion on the final status of the West Bank and Gaza Strip."

The journalist, who is considered to be an expert on Israeli affairs, said Shamir wanted to separate negotiations on the final status of the occupied territories and the "self-rule" formula suggested by the Americans.

PLO willing for meeting

The PLO said Saturday it was willing to meet U.S. officials "on any level," and said American rejection of a meeting shows the United States is not serious about Arab-Israeli peace.

The statement was released by PLO spokesmen here hours after Shultz flew on to Syria.

The statement said the PLO was willing "to meet with the American administration on any level, in any capital, Arab or foreign."

It said there could be "prominent Palestinian figures meeting the administration inside the occupied territories and outside to solidify our position and guarantee the rights of our people in the occupied territories."

told the Jordan Times that consultations were still going on to try to arrange a meeting between Shultz and Palestinian personalities.

Upon the instructions of the PLO, 15 prominent Palestinian personalities from the West Bank and Gaza boycotted a meeting arranged by the American consulate in Jerusalem Friday evening.

In a series of interviews with Radio Monte Carlo, five of the 15 said that they would support such a meeting if the U.S. agreed to include Palestinian personalities from outside the occupied territories named by the PLO.

The suggestion, originally made by the PLO, called for a meeting outside the occupied territories between Shultz and Palestinians representing the people under occupation and in exile.

"(The suggestion) is moderate and logical," Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij told Radio Monte Carlo in an interview broadcast Friday evening. Freij said that "there were new facts and developments in the occupied territories that have changed the political concepts and values."

Asked if he was ready to attend a meeting with Shultz in an Arab capital, Freij said: "I support it and I am fully committed to whatever the PLO decides."

He said such a meeting could be arranged in either Cairo, Amman, Europe or even the U.S. itself.

A PLO official told the Jordan Times that all of the Palestinian factions would support such an idea. He said, however, that left-wing factions strongly oppose that such a meeting be held in Cairo and preferred Amman.

According to Palestinian officials contacted by Jordan Times, the PLO insists that a meeting would include personalities from inside the occupied territories and elsewhere to prevent, what it perceives as American attempts to separate the Palestinians in exile and under occupation and between the PLO and the Palestinian people.

Birzeit professor Sari Nusseibeh, who also declined the invitation to meet Shultz, made a similar point. "Shultz seems to be trying to make a political statement by insisting on a meeting here: that the Palestinian problem is in the context of civil, religious and perhaps economic rights," he told the Associated Press in an interview. "By saying I will not attend, I am saying this is wrong; the problem is one of the national rights of the Palestinians."

THE INDIAN PEARL

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ATMOSPHERE

THE INDIAN PEARL

RESTAURANT

AMMAN

Jordanian firm develops software for contractors

CILCON — Civil Construction Company, the Jordanian building contractor, has recently developed in-house a new software system for the construction industry. The software, called PRE-CPM, is an integrated management system based on the modern practices of international companies that use computer programming for manufacturing of products like cars and equipment.

The basic concept of the PRE-CPM is that it allows the contractor through the MRM and LRM systems (Material and Labour Resources Management) to track subcontractors/suppliers compliance with their agreed programmes — through numerous but small network programmes designed for each of the foreign (local) manufacturers. CILCON actually sets the Management System for the European companies that subcontract important work for one of its jobs in Jordan by constraining the CPM network programme of the contractor firms with the preferred start of each activity in the overall CPM programme of CILCON for the whole project.

CILCON believes that this rather novel system which is based on drawing from the technological advances of management systems of the larger corporations in the world, can work very effectively on small scale jobs whether in construction or in any other activity (such as industry) requiring careful and continuous tuning of planning and management systems.

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Sunday's Economic Pulse

Spend more, collect less, and avoid deficit

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

SOME economic analysts take a complex economic issue, deal with it from only one side, and make sweeping judgments.

When they happen to see another side in a different context, they do not hesitate to come up with different conclusions. They do not bother to make the effort of reconciling their contradicting views or, at least assigning weights to the competing factors which could be resolved only by the determination of the priorities.

A well-entrenched economic commentator recently defended more public expenditure. Such expenditure, he argued, is either developmental which will result in increased production and more jobs, or current which will produce services badly needed to raise the standard of living of the population. In both cases, he asserted, the public expenditure will activate the economy and revitalise the private sector. What the government spends, he added, forms income to the families and companies.

In another occasion we heard the same commentator pointing out the failure of the custodians of our economy in addressing the

chronic problem of fiscal deficit, and the heavy dependence on external and undependable sources. This fiscal failure lived with us for tens of years, he said, and no cure has been put forward or implemented.

Finally we read by the same commentator that local taxes have become very excessive, and beyond the capacity of the citizen to pay. Taxes he said were eating up everything, and creating disincentives to work and produce.

These three points of view were put forward in three different occasions, but within only two weeks. They are not wrong. They make good sense taken one at a time. The problem arises when all the three of them are put together. In that case the analyst must be embarrassed because the contradiction becomes apparent.

If we like to encourage the government to expand, or even maintain the present high level of public expenditure, we have to find the resources needed to fund such expenditure and make it possible. Those resources could not be anything other than domestic

revenue i.e., local taxes or loans to cover deficit.

The question is: How can anyone in his right mind ask the government to spend more, collect less, and avoid deficit which can be covered by either external borrowing which is dangerous, or local borrowing, which is crowding out the private sector?

These nice slogans may make good politics, but very bad economics. They should not go unaccounted for. Those who call for lower taxes must come up with these particular expenses they want to eliminate. Those who call for the reduction of budget deficit and rightly warn against borrowing abroad should have the courage to advocate lower expenditures and higher taxes or both. The exact expenditures and taxes should be pointed out.

For every economic policy or good aim there is a price which must be paid. We should not raise our voices calling for policies and targets that are good and acceptable, while hiding the price that must go hand in hand with these targets and that should be paid in order to achieve these targets.

Agitators all

UNITED STATES President Ronald Reagan's statement during his news conference last week that there were "intimations" of outside agitators being partly responsible for inciting the violence on the West Bank and Gaza during the past three months strikes one, at first, as rather naive, even ignorant. But, on second thought, Mr. Reagan is probably correct. There are many outside agitators who have played a major role in inciting the violence.

There is, to begin with, the United States itself, which blindly refuses to accept the Palestinian uprising as an expression of a Palestinian national identity or a desire to be rid of the American-occupied Israeli occupation.

There is Israel, which insists on trying to use force to quell the uprising, which only prompts the Palestinians to greater levels of defiance and nationalistic self-expression.

There is Great Britain, which started the ball rolling earlier this century by promising the land of Palestine to both Jews and Arabs; and when the extent of its untenable position became clear, it packed its bags and left the region rather ignominiously.

There is France, which colluded with Great Britain in the World War One years to slice up the Middle East into zones of influence and control, like two fat cats sharing a fish.

These outside agitators have been working, at one stage or another, separately or in shifting alliances, to maintain the century-long continuity of the denial of Palestinian national rights.

It is sad to hear an American president talk of outside agitators, and to say, as Mr. Reagan did, that "there is evidence that these riots are not spontaneous and home grown," when the United States government is trying to re-establish its credibility among the parties to the Arab-Israeli dispute, and to attempt to mediate a negotiated solution. But then, perhaps he is right.

These "riots" are not home grown. They are the logical culmination of 80 years of the denial of the identity, the nationalism and the physical security of the people who call themselves Palestinians — a denial that has been largely manipulated by the hands of the governments of Israel, the United States, and, going back to the early days of the century, of France and Great Britain. Whether you call them great powers, or local powers, or outside agitators, does not make very much difference. They share the blame for allowing a historical injustice to develop, and to be perpetuated. Mr. Reagan and the Israelis simply compound the injustice, and their direct role in it, by looking for outside culprits on whom to pin the blame for a dynamic that they have been intimately involved in for many decades. That's the problem with these outside agitators. They're blind to the truth.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Uprising escalates

THE Palestinian people's uprising Friday offered four martyrs who have now joined the line of heroes who sacrificed their lives for their land and nation. As the martyrs fell the Palestinians expressed more determination and resolve to pursue the struggle for liberating the Palestinian land from Israeli occupation. The Palestinians have extended their uprising to cover all towns and villages in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip where the people are united in their efforts and their objectives, and in their continued struggle to evict the invaders from Palestinian land. Whether U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz had been in Jerusalem and other parts of the occupied territory understood the Palestinian people's message or not the world realises that the martyrs fell as a result of Israel's intransigence and the Zionist policies in the occupied territory. Those martyrs chose the only way chosen by other peoples of the world who struggled for their freedom and liberation; and the Palestinian people as a whole are now going the same way and are maintaining the struggle for freedom. This people are proving to the world that no attempt to abort their struggle will ever succeed and that they preferred to die for the sake of freedom rather than succumb to the will of the enemy. The iron-fist policy with which Nazi Germany ruled Europe in the Second World War cannot and will not succeed in subjugating the Palestinians who are determined to live and to win their freedom.

Al Dustour: Did Shultz hear or see?

EIGHTY days have passed since the beginning of the uprising in the occupied Palestinian land where the Arab people sacrificed tens of martyrs and hundreds of wounded for the sake of freedom. The outcome of Friday's clashes was four more people killed at the hands of the Zionist rulers and Friday seemed as the first day of the uprising and indicated that the Palestinians are determined to pursue the struggle to the end regardless of the enemy's atrocities and crimes. But, it was noticed that the uprising has been increasing in intensity since the beginning of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's tour of the Middle East and it looks as though this uprising will continue to be stepped up all throughout the tour, as a clear sign for Washington that the Palestinian people are determined to gain their right and freedom regardless of U.S. support for Israel and its biased stand towards the Zionists. The uprising is also urging the Americans to join the rest of the world nations in demanding an international conference to end the Arab-Israeli conflict and bring about peace in the Middle East region. Shultz who listened to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's rejection of the conference idea should have looked through the window to see the Arab people's determination on pursuing the struggle and offering sacrifices for their freedom. The U.S. should clearly understand the situation in our region and stop its opposition to the idea of the conference which is designed to bring us peace.

Sawt Al Shaab: Shultz has nothing new

SO far, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has said nothing new, and all he said was a repetition of old and traditional American statements about the Middle East issue. This means that the U.S. stand remains within the Israeli circle, calling for direct negotiations with the Arabs, which Israel hopes will help her to make more gains. When Shultz mentioned U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, he failed to mention that these two resolutions should be implemented through an international conference and under the auspices of the United Nations which initiated these resolutions in the first place. Shultz is therefore echoing Washington's belief that direct talks between Israel and the Arabs constitute the safest and most proper means for a settlement. Shultz, asked the local Palestinian leaders to sit and talk with him over a settlement. But these leaders are determined to end the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and they have a new situation at their hands, represented in the uprising of the Palestinian people which Israel finds hard to put down. Shultz refuses to recognise these new circumstances and still insists on dealing with the Middle East with old ideas, reflecting those of the Israeli leadership.

Palestinians appear dug in for long struggle

By Jeffrey Bartholet
Reuters

RAMALLAH, West Bank — To dramatise his story, Jamal Katami leans close to his listener, holds his nose, shuts his mouth and blows.

The sound that wheezes from his deaf left ear is meant to make two points: The Palestinians regard the Israeli occupation as brutal and are willing to make severe sacrifices to end it.

Katami, imprisoned by Israel after returning home in 1976 from Lebanon where he was trained by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), says an Israeli interrogator at the time pushed a pencil too far into his ear.

Like other Palestinians here, he insists that despite shootings, beatings and economic hardship, an 11-week uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories will continue.

More than 60 people have been killed and hundreds wounded in the uprising, which erupted in December. A widespread civil disobedience campaign is also in effect.

Many West Bank residents said

they had lost all confidence in non-Palestinians being able to solve their problems and were taking matters into their own hands.

"It must continue," said Katami, lying next to a kerosene heater in a shabby hotel. "Many people may be killed, but it will still continue, until they solve the Palestinian problem."

Another Palestinian, whose brother was shot in the head and killed in Ramallah, told reporters he was proud his brother would not be the last to fall, he said.

Israelis admit brutality

On Monday, Israel's attorney-general Yosef Harish said his office was being inundated by reports of soldiers illegally beating up Arabs during the uprising.

"I have checked and found out that the number of complaints raises the suspicion that classifying these incidents as exceptions no longer reflects the reality," Harish said in a letter to Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

And in a letter made public Tuesday, Israel's army chief of staff Dan Shomron spelled out

guidelines for the use of force against civilians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Israeli soldiers must act with firmness and decisiveness along with self-control, restraint and sensitivity, according to the high norms of behaviour compelling Israeli soldiers and commanders," he said.

Shomron said soldiers could use force to disperse demonstrators or to overcome a civilian resisting arrest, but must avoid hitting people on their heads or other sensitive parts of the body.

Large demonstrations are expected during the peace mission to the region this week by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. Shopkeepers in the territories have settled into a strike routine, opening for just three hours a day.

Some people, especially from refugee camps, still go to work in Israel. But Palestinians dispute Israel's claim that a large majority of its Arab workforce is working normally.

The Israeli authorities say they hope the strike will backfire, causing economic problems that will break the Palestinians' resolve.

An Arab waiter in West Jerusalem who works for an Israeli hotel said he supported the strike but had to work.

"It's not a matter of money, it's food," he said. "I have six children. Who will feed them?"

A shopowner in Ramallah said he would strike until he and his five children were eating only bread. He, like others, drew historical parallels for the struggle.

"In Vietnam, they ate rats. They ate the snakes until they had their freedom," he said.

On his living room wall was a poster of a young woman with blood pouring from her head onto the grass of an open field. It was titled *Al Watan*, the homeland.

"We will get money from the PLO. If it is needed, they will supply it," he said.

The shopowner also told a story about a lorry taking donations of food to refugee camps in the West Bank. At each stop, he said, residents told the driver to take the food to more needy people.

"Israel says that some of the people do the strikes and protests," he said. "They do not know that all the people are united just like one man."



Anti-American sentiment grows in the Arab media

By Ashraf Fouad
Reuters

BAHRAIN — A black-cloaked Israeli Jew steers a robot-like U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz by remote control, directing his moves on a Middle East peace mission.

The cartoon in the Saudi Arabian Ashraq Al Awsat daily reflected growing anti-American sentiment in normally pro-Western Arabic publications ahead of Shultz's arrival in the Middle East last Thursday.

The anti-American media campaign gathered steam earlier this month after Washington blocked two U.N. draft resolutions condemning Israel and as new U.S. proposals to end the Arab-Israeli conflict failed to interest Arab leaders.

Western diplomats in the region forecast the media campaign would intensify during and after Shultz's visit because of general Arab rejection of his efforts to rekindle Middle East peace moves.

Some U.S. Arab allies have already warned Washington

against its pro-Israeli line.

"America must follow an American policy and not an Israeli policy," United Arab Emirates (UAE) President Sheikh Zaid Bin Sultan Al Nahayan said earlier this month.

In other, more conservative pro-Western Arab states like Saudi Arabia and Bahrain, the media, which often reflects official views, have followed similar lines and one newspaper even accused the United States of being an enemy to the Arabs.

Washington's Middle East policy is built on "complete hatred towards the Arabs... and complete protection to the Zionist enemy despite his terrorist practices and barbaric acts," said Bahrain's Akhbar Al Khaleej.

U.S. diplomats in the region dismiss the accusations and say Washington's image has improved in the region in recent months, especially since last July when the United States started protecting Kuwaiti tankers in the Gulf to deter Iranian attacks.

"Our response to (the new) ideas which America is trying to promote is negative... (Washington) is not fit to drive the train of

settlement," Kuwait's Al Rai Al 'Aam daily said.

U.S. efforts to restart the Middle East peace process reportedly feature a period of limited self-rule for Palestinians living under Israeli occupation to be followed by Arab-Israeli talks.

Most Arab states want an international Middle East peace conference under U.N. auspices to be attended by all parties to the conflict including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), which the United States and Israel regard as a "terrorist" group.

Arab officials say the American proposals fail to tackle the fundamental issues in the more than 40-year-old Arab-Israeli conflict.

Some Western diplomats say Arab rejection of Washington's handling of the Middle East is giving Moscow opportunities for diplomatic advantage in the region.

To the surprise of many diplomats, the director of the Middle East desk at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, Vladimir Polyakov, held talks in Riyadh last week.

It was believed the first visit by a senior Kremlin official to Saudi Arabia in 50 years.

Relations worsening over N. Ireland

By Marcus Eliaso
The Associated Press

LONDON — After a prolonged warm spell, Anglo-Irish relations appear to be going into a dangerous free fall over a spate of incidents involving the conduct of British security forces in Northern Ireland.

So severe is the strain that fears are being voiced for the survival of the 1985 Anglo-Irish agreement, which gave Dublin a say in the running of Northern Ireland and was responsible for the relative amity that existed between Britain and Ireland until the beginning of the year.

The harmony was jolted on Jan. 25 when the British government announced that, having investigated the shooting of six unarmed Roman Catholics by Northern Ireland police in 1982, authorities had uncovered evidence of a conspiracy to pervert the course of justice, yet no policemen would be prosecuted.

In the same week, matters worsened when a British court rejected the appeal of six Irishmen who claim they were wrongly convicted of a 1974 bombing attack in mainland Britain that killed 21 people.

The Irish government said that despite the ruling, it continued to believe a miscarriage of justice

may have occurred.

That dispute was quickly followed by a new one as Ireland accused London of failing to abide by the conditions Dublin has set for extraditing Irish Republican Army suspects to Britain.

Next, the British government announced it was making permanent its tough anti-terrorism law, which requires annual parliamentary renewal. Many Irish believe the law tars them with the brush of the IRA and only after outcry in Ireland did Britain restore parliament's right to review the law annually.

Temper worsened Sunday when Aidan McAneaspie, a 23-year-old Catholic and supporter of the outlawed IRA's legal political wing, Sinn Fein, was shot dead from an army observation tower as he was walking through a security checkpoint on the Ireland-Northern Ireland border.

The army expressed regret and the soldier who fired the shot was charged Wednesday with unlawful killing.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary said it was investigating the shooting, but Irish Prime Minister Charles Haughey ordered his own force to investigate, too.

This outraged the British, who say it is a gesture of disdain for the British army and Prime

Minister Margaret Thatcher pointedly warned the Irish to keep their investigation to their own side of the border.

She also voiced annoyance at Dublin's behaviour on the extradition issue.

But then, Tuesday, the army dropped a fresh bombshell. It announced that Pte. Ian Thain, the only British soldier ever jailed for life for killing a civilian in Northern Ireland, was free on parole and back in his regiment, having served only three years of his term.

Even the conservative Daily Telegraph, which usually takes Britain's side in disputes with Ireland, called it an act of "stunning insensitivity."

Among Northern Ireland's Catholic minority, angry reactions came not just from Sinn Fein militants, but from moderates like Cardinal Tomas O. Fiaich, head of Ireland's Roman Catholic Church. He called McAneaspie's death "murder," and said Thain's release added insult to injury.

A British official who insisted on anonymity said the incidents were "a spasm" in Anglo-Irish relations, not a pattern. He said Britain's critics were failing to take into account that the security forces in Northern Ireland were not a terrorist organisation.

It was that alienation that was supposed to be tackled by the Anglo-Irish agreement, the paper said, adding: "That hope is fading by the week."

فكرنا في الحرة

سنة ١٤٠٩



A barefooted boy travelling to work early morning in Northern Shoa, Ethiopia

Barefoot revolution sweeps Third World

By Peter Millership
Reuter

LONDON — The people of the Third World are refusing to become institutionalised beggars and are banding together in small communities to dig themselves out of poverty, says a new report for "The Club of Rome."

Entitled "The Barefoot Revolution", it brands the past 20 years of development effort, characterised by sophisticated Western-style projects, as a costly disaster and looks at new small-scale farm, health and education programmes across Latin America, Africa and Asia.

The report is written by Bertrand Schneider, Club of Rome's secretary general. Founded 20 years ago, the club is an informal grouping of government leaders, scientists, economists and businessmen who seek to influence national policies by recommending new strategies.

"Rural development in the Third World is not only a life and death matter for two billion peasants, but also a problem affecting the peace and security

of every nation," Schneider says. His report focuses on the spread of self-help, grassroots projects started by non-governmental organisations (NGOs) — seen as the new agents of change.

"This new trend is radically changing the tenets of development that have prevailed until now, for it entails a complete overhaul of 20 years of economic strategy that has not fulfilled its promises," the report said.

Published as a book in Britain on Thursday (February 25), the report calls on governments and financial institutions to recognise so-called NGOs as fully-fledged agents of development and to support them with appropriate funding.

"In view of the failure of 20 years of development efforts patterned on Western industrial society's models, it is clearly time to try less ambitious and more pragmatic approaches," it says.

Disastrous projects

Engineers and water experts now say most of the giant water

projects undertaken in the Third World since the 1960s have been disasters and have had devastating ecological effects displacing hundreds of thousands of people.

The construction of Egypt's Aswan High Dam, seen as a daring step to modernise a poor country, wrecked tracts of farmland and destroyed the country's sardine industry, the report says.

In Tanzania, a farming project in Arusha was far too intensive for the valley's delicate tropical ecology and the entire multi-million dollar scheme had to be rethought.

Brazil's debt has been aggravated by enormous construction projects.

The report says that in Africa, as in Latin America, food-sufficiency is undermined by spending scarce cash on huge agro-industrial schemes to grow cash crops for export.

In terms of feeding hungry people, the results have been devastating. African food production has dropped 1.4 per cent annually since the 1960s, the report says.

Half of humanity still lives in

want, malnutrition and misery, says Schneider, who told Reuters in an interview: "We want the cause of underdevelopment attacked, not (just) the consequences."

NGOs aim to provide training in the field and encourage the innovation and use of simple, local technology. They can be local or foreign. There are numerous NGO liaison offices set up within the United Nations and its regional bodies.

NGOs

The report, which used statistics gathered by six teams of researchers visiting 93 projects in 19 countries as well as additional material from 230 other projects, said there is a vast NGO network.

NGOs were engaged initially in charitable activities providing emergency assistance, food aid and medical care.

Many NGOs believe that once emergency measures have been taken, the real causes of underdevelopment should be addressed as only then does the real battle begin.

NGOs can experience problems in their work.

Foreign NGOs can be regarded with suspicion. In Bolivia, researchers were told by local people they were distrustful of some groups which have been accused of working with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

In a troubled political environment some groups might wish to reap political gains from NGO actions.

There can be scrapes with authority.

At times NGOs have deliberately ignored governments. Some short-circuit official attempts to control their activities and funding by working under the umbrella of non-profit church groups. Bureaucrats can penalise NGOs with taxes and licenses. Sometimes peasants are resentful about NGOs.

"We do not want to be shamefully dependent on the projects of foreign organisations. We know the solution to our problems will never be in begging for crumbs from aid organisations," an Ecuadorian peasant group was quoted as saying.

Help can also have political overtones.

"The NGOs (foreigners) come and present us with a tractor. But when we ask for land to use this tractor on, they treat us like Communists," the peasant group said.

The report says that in some areas, "through their struggle against the abuse of power by officials or bureaucrats they (NGOs) upheld the rights of the rural poor."

"In these cases NGOs may even themselves become factors of political instability."

The report said NGOs were often becoming more streamlined and efficient to impress government aid donors and funding institutions.

Important spheres of influence apart from schooling, food and health were land problems, corruption, population growth, migration and preservation of local culture.

Schneider says the NGO phenomenon is "the beginning of a crusade by two billion peasants for their daily food and for their dignity."

Workaholic Germans embrace the easy life

By Mark Heinrich
Reuter

BONN — West Germans, renowned for their hard work in rebuilding their country from the ruins of World War II, are embracing the easy life — many to such an extent that they spend their spare time doing nothing at all.

Since the completion of the postwar "economic miracle" in the 1960s, West Germany's working week has shrunk to among the world's shortest, ranging from 37 to 40 hours.

The country is also a leader in public holidays — up to 20 days a year in some states — in addition to a guaranteed five or six weeks of paid annual leave.

Shops have some of the shortest opening hours in the West with a mandatory half day on Saturday. Restaurant kitchens commonly close at 10:30 p.m.

The attitude is, from the ruins of the war we worked and earned money like crazy and acquired everything material there is to have, and now, let's enjoy it," said Horst Opaschowski of the Hamburg-based Leisure Research Institute.

With so much time off and so much money to spend — 220 billion marks (\$134 billion) went on leisure in 1985 — West Germans have become practiced idlers at home and keen travellers abroad.

"For a long time, perhaps until the 1960s, work stood at the very top of a German's scale of values. Since then, we've seen a reversal so that now the priorities are, in order, family, friends, leisure, job and education," Opaschowski told Reuters.

A 1983 poll, he said, showed

only 15 per cent of Germans proud of their job, compared to 37 per cent of Japanese, 69 per cent of Britons and 84 per cent of Americans.

The German Society for Leisure (DGF), aided by a 300 million mark annual government grant, has amassed statistics inviting the conclusion that West Germans are quite different from their international image.

The DGF's 1987 report said 76 per cent of West Germans enjoyed spending leisure time "doing nothing."

The most popular pursuits were watching television (90 per cent), reading newspapers (87 per cent), going for a walk (83 per cent) and visiting friends and family (82 per cent).

The least popular, the DGF said, were visits to museums and exhibitions (28 per cent) and artistic hobbies (18 per cent).

Some 56 per cent of the population devoted their spare time to acquiring a sunbath.

"There's much more time to be active in your free time today, but also to be lazy. The most sought-after (holiday) leisure is lying spreadeagled in the sun all day," said Heinz-Rico Scherrie, a social researcher in Wuerzburg.

"The vacation has become part of our life rhythm. In other countries, it's a special event," he said.

In summer, West Germany's motorways turn into vast traffic jams and millions head south to Europe's Mediterranean resorts during the peak holiday season.

The jams are so bad that the German automobile club hires motorcycle riders to weave through the traffic to try to calm motorists' nerves.

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Sammy and Rosie incur the wrath of the establishment

By Andrew Gumbel
Reuter

LONDON — "While London burns..." announce the posters against a background of waste-land, fires and riot police, "Sammy and Rosie Get Laid."

So runs the publicity for "Sammy and Rosie Get Laid", a newly-released state-of-Britain film whose angry swipes at life under a right-wing government in the 1980s have caused a furore.

Its title, which shocked U.S. distributors when the film was released there in October, prompted several regional British newspapers to say they might not advertise or review it as it goes on national release this month.

The Sunday Times, a national newspaper, ran an article by Ox-

ford University history professor Norman Stone calling it a prize example of left-wing propaganda and "general disgustingness."

The outrage over "Sammy and Rosie" has added fuel to recent debate over freedom of expression in Britain, which opposition parties say has been threatened by government injunctions on books and television programmes and legislation which would ban local councils from "promoting homosexuality."

Divided Britain

The film depicts a Britain torn apart by racism, violence and an irreconcilable gap between the haves and have-nots, centering on the open house and open marriage of accountant Sammy

and Rosie, a social worker.

"England seems to have become a squalid, ugly and uncomfortable place," the film's script-writer Hanif Kureishi wrote recently. "Its government... has attacked most forms of legitimate opposition. The few areas of freedom and dissent left are contracting fast."

The film opens with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's 1987 general election victory speech promising improvements in the inner cities. At the end, bulldozers flatten a makeshift community of homeless people living in caravans and shacks underneath a motorway flyover.

Featuring race riots in the street and multiracial couplings in bed (three of which are shown simultaneously on a split screen), its characters include, in Rosie's words, "the usual social deviants, Communists, lesbians and blacks, with a sprinkling of the mentally subnormal to start the dancing."

The £1.5 million (\$2.6 million) production is the work of Kureishi and director Stephen Frears, whose previous low-budget story of a homosexual relationship between two Londoners, one white and one Asian, "My Beautiful Laundrette," was an unlikely international hit.

"Salacious"

Kureishi originally wanted the new film's title to be a straight four-letter word, but even in its modified form it has been called "salacious" on both sides of the Atlantic.

British morality campaigner Mary Whitehouse, whose organisation the National Viewers and Listeners Association lobbies against what it sees as obscenity, said in a newspaper interview: "The title of the film certainly crosses the boundaries of good taste."

"Indeed, to have it displayed on cinema billboards where anyone can see it amounts, in my opinion, to a public nuisance."

U.S. newspapers including the New York Times and the Los Angeles Times insisted on shortening it to "Sammy and Rosie" in their advertising in line with the Motion Picture Association of America which refused to register the title as it stood. The state of Ohio banned the film altogether.

In his Sunday Times article entitled "sick scenes from English life," Stone looked at six recent British releases including "Sammy and Rosie" and "Laundrette", calling them flat and two-dimensional.

"They represent at best a tiny part of modern England and, more likely, a nasty part of their producers' brains," he wrote.

Stone's article provoked an angry response from Kureishi, who wrote a few days later in the liberal daily Guardian: "Whenever

a right-wing newspaper calls one of our films 'sick' Stephen and I know we must be doing the right thing."

Last September the Sunday Times wrote a leader in which they complained of Britain's intelligentsia always "sniping from the sidelines." I think this is euphemism for being critical. God forbid that any artist should mention unemployment, or racism, or poverty."

Palace Pictures, distributors of

"Sammy and Rosie", said the film took \$1/2 million in its first three months in the United States, where it is still opening in major cities.

Box office earnings of £42,000 (\$73,500) for its first week at three London cinemas promise well for its future in this country too.

"What it is," said Roland Gift, one of the film's leading actors, "is a movie you don't forget too quickly."



Chloe Bloom as Alice, Shashi Kapoor as Rafi and Suzette Llewellyn as Vivian in Sammy and Rosie Get Laid.

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Liverpool scrapes past Portsmouth to extend lead

LONDON (R) — A slice of luck and the skills of John Barnes came to Liverpool's rescue Saturday as they battled to a 2-0 victory at Portsmouth to move 14 points clear at the top of the English first soccer division.

Barnes scored both goals, striking after 49 and 85 minutes, to extend Liverpool's unbeaten start to the league season to 27 matches and end Portsmouth's own 10-match unbeaten run.

But it was an uncomfortable afternoon for the leaders who had to survive several periods of heavy Portsmouth pressure before stealing ahead and taking command.

Barnes' opening goal, after a typical burst of acceleration past his marker, came courtesy of a wicked deflection and the second at a time when Portsmouth were pressing hard for an equaliser.

With second-placed Manchester United and third-placed Nottingham Forest without matches, three of the pack involved in the chase for the runners-up spot and a possible place in Europe next season made the most of inviting home fixtures.

Fourth-placed Everton recovered from a traumatic week of two cup defeats by beating Southampton 1-0, fifth-placed Arsenal continued their crushing current form by disposing of struggling Charlton 4-0 and sixth-placed Queens Park Rangers overcame London rivals Wimbledon, who were one place below them, 1-0.

Wimbledon's defeat meant it was a disappointing day for former England, Real Madrid and Marseille winger Laurie Cunningham who was making his league debut for the club.

Queens Park Rangers' winner came from John Byrne after 81 minutes.

Everton, by contrast, secured their decisive goal against South-

English and Scottish football league standings

LONDON (R) — English and Scottish football league tables after Saturday's matches.

English Division One

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts.
Liverpool	27	21	6	0	65	12	69
Manchester United	29	15	10	4	44	28	55
Nottingham Forest	26	14	7	5	50	24	49
Everton	27	14	7	6	39	16	49
Arsenal	28	14	6	8	43	26	48
Queens Park Rangers	28	13	7	8	33	30	46
Wimbledon	28	11	9	8	40	32	42
Luton	26	11	5	10	40	32	38
Tottenham	29	10	8	11	30	32	38
Sheffield Wednesday	29	11	4	14	34	48	37
Newcastle	27	9	9	9	34	39	36
Southampton	28	8	9	11	35	40	33
West Ham	28	7	11	10	29	36	32
Coventry	27	8	8	11	28	39	32
Chelsea	29	8	7	14	35	50	31
Norwich	28	8	6	14	26	34	30
Portsmouth	29	6	12	11	27	46	30
Derby	27	7	7	13	23	32	28
Oxford	27	6	7	14	32	53	25
Charlton	29	5	9	15	27	46	24
Watford	28	5	8	15	18	37	23

Scottish Premier Division

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts.
Celtic	33	22	9	2	60	20	53
Rangers	34	21	7	6	65	23	49
Hearts	34	17	13	4	62	28	47
Aberdeen	34	17	13	4	48	21	47
Dundee United	34	12	11	11	38	37	35
Dundee	33	14	6	13	59	43	34
Hibernian	34	10	13	11	33	35	33
St. Mirren	33	7	12	14	33	49	26
Motherwell	34	9	7	18	26	46	25
Falkirk	34	7	9	18	32	59	23
Dumfries	33	5	8	20	24	65	18
Morton	34	2	10	22	22	76	14

ampton after only four minutes when Paul Power struck with a powerful drive.

Arsenal, playing with great confidence after their Football Association (F.A.) and League Cup wins over Manchester United and Everton respectively, beat Charlton comprehensively with two goals by Paul Merson and one each from Michael Thomas and Alan Smith.

Tottenham enjoyed their best result since former Barcelona coach Terry Venables took over as manager last November — a 3-0 win at Sheffield Wednesday. It was the team's fourth win under Venables.

England striker Clive Allen put Spurs ahead after 16 minutes and late goals by Belgium's Nico Claessen and midfielder Paul Allen sealed an impressive victory.

Newcastle also hit three — with Brazilian striker Mirandinha returning to form with goals after

10 and 31 minutes — as they beat hapless Chelsea 3-1. The result left Chelsea without a win in 15 league matches and sliding dangerously close to the relegation positions.

Substitute Clive Wilson scored with his first touch after 67 minutes to pull a goal back for Chelsea, but a further goal by midfielder Paul Gascoigne ended their revival hopes.

Scottish League

In Scotland, a last-minute goal by Captain Roy Aitken earned Celtic a 1-0 premier division victory over bottom club Morton and lifted them four points clear of rivals Rangers who drew 1-1 at Dundee United.

Morton held Celtic until the final 40 seconds when striker Frank McAvennie was fouled in the penalty area and Aitken coolly scored from the spot.

Finnish international Mika Paatelainen gave European Cup quarter-finalists Rangers a shock at Dundee United when he powered the home team ahead in the 44th minute.

But Rangers, who face Steaua Bucharest in Romania Wednesday, levelled through Mark Walters in the 67th minute.

Soviets clinch hockey gold

CALGARY (Agencies) — The Soviet Union wiped out a year of frustration with two weeks of brilliance, capping an awesome surge to its second straight Olympic hockey gold medal Friday with a 7-1 victory over Sweden.

In routing the world champion Swedes, the Soviets painted a portrait of hockey perfection.

They weaved, passed and shot and defended their way to their seventh gold in nine Olympics since winning their first gold in their first try back in 1956. They also won a silver and a bronze during that span, while posting a 53-4-2 record in Olympic competition.

Since losing in 1980 to the United States — the only other country to win the gold in the last 32 years — the Soviets have vented their anger on the rest of the world, winning 15 straight Olympic games. They are 7-0 this year, having outscored their opponents 43-11.

This latest triumph comes after a 1987 in which they failed to win the Calgary Cup, the world championships, the Canada Cup and their own Izvestia tournament.

However, it was a well-oiled machine that the world saw Friday night against Sweden, which took the championship last April.

Sweden, which was 0-4-2 against the Soviets during a 10-year run that ended in 1987, had two victories and two ties in the last year and seemed capable of putting a halt to the Soviet Union's Olympic domination.

But this Swedish squad differed sharply from its world championship and Canada Cup predecessors.

Canada snapped a medal-round scoreless streak of almost 200 minutes and then scored three times in a 1:34 span of the second period Friday, staying alive in the Olympic hockey bronze medal race with a 3-1 victory over West Germany.

With the Soviets victory over Sweden, Canada and West Germany remain alive for a bronze. A Soviet-Sweden tie would have eliminated West Germany but not Canada.

The Canadians had been outscored 11-0 in three medal-round games dating back to 1984 and didn't appear ready to score Friday, either.

West Germany, which had a surprising 4-1 record during divisional play but lost decisively to Finland in its medal-round opener, dominated the first period. The West Germans outshot Canada 17-7 and would have had a few goals were it not for the outstanding goaltending of Andy Moog.

E. German sets sixth world record at Calgary; Swiss skier takes gold in two Alpine events

CALGARY (Agencies) — One of East Germany's speed demons on ice gave these Winter Games a sixth world record Friday, while Switzerland's Vreni Schneider became only the fifth woman to win two Alpine skiing gold medals in one Olympics.

Schneider, astonished to find herself in the lead, turned on more speed Friday to clinch victory in the women's slalom race.

No one was astonished, however, when Christa Rothenburger's triumph in the women's 1,000-metre speed skating brought the score to six world records in eight Olympic races so far on Calgary's windless indoor track, the first indoor speed skating rink ever used in an Olympics.

Also no surprise was the Soviet Union's sixth consecutive Olympic victory in the 4 x 7.5-kilometre biathlon relay — the longest unbeaten streak by any team in Winter Games.

Mostly thanks to their speed on the cross country ski trails, a factor in the biathlon too, the Soviets now have a total of 26 medals in the 10 Winter Olympic sports and appear certain to win the overall medals race. They have won 13 medals, five of them gold, in cross country and four medals, including one gold, in biathlon. One cross country race remains, the men's 50-kilometre marathon Saturday.

But the East Germans, now trailing the 10-8 in gold medals, have a chance to catch up in the gold column. They are among the favourites in two remaining women's speed skating races and a bobsled competition, and Katarina Witt battles Saturday to defend her Olympic title in women's figure skating.

The East Germans have 19 medals in all after Friday night's speed skating, in which American Bonnie Blair, the 500-metre gold medalist, prevented an East Ger-

man medal sweep by taking the bronze.

Silver medalist Karen Kania, defending Olympic champion at 1,000 metres, won the silver medal. It was her seventh medal in three Olympics, making her the most successful woman Olympian in her sport.

She said that Friday's first run, "I did not attack ... and I was astonished when I saw I was in first place" — by 0.01 second over Camilla Nilsson of Sweden. In the second, "I did not think about my first-run advantage. I knew I had to run fast in the second heat to win the gold, and I pushed throughout my run," she added.

Nilsson, watched by Swedish King Carl XVI Gustaf, lost her chance when she straddled a gate about 20 seconds into her second run.

"But that did not change my (attacking) attitude toward the run," said Schneider, who leads the world cup slalom standings and is tied with teammate Michelle Figini for the overall lead.

The spectators included women in shorts and shirtless men as warm southerly winds continued to bring springlike temperatures to the winter games. Temperatures at some places in the Calgary area went into the high teens C (60s F) for the second consecutive day.

Schneider skied the first run in 48.81 seconds and, in 47.88, is nearly a half-second faster than anyone else in the second. Her total was 1 minute, 36.69 seconds.

Mateja Svet was second in 1:38.37, winning Yugoslavia's first Alpine medal in these games, and Christa Kinshofer-Gnethlein of West Germany, silver medalist in the giant slalom, was third in 1:38.40.

In the biathlon, which combines cross country skiing and rifle marksmanship, Frank-Peter Roetsch of East Germany had won the 20- and 10-kilometre individual titles, but in Friday's relay his efforts on the second leg were enough only to move his team up from 12th to fifth, a position it kept to the end.

East German leadoff man Jurgen Wirth missed three times on the shooting lap and had to ski the 150-metre penalty loop three times. That knocked the East Germans out of contention.

In Saturday's games, Alberto Tomba is exuding confidence as he goes after his second gold medal in the men's slalom, the final Alpine event of the Winter Olympics.

"It will be easier than in giant slalom, trust me," Tomba, who won the giant slalom Thursday and is not known for modesty, said on the eve of the slalom.

The 21-year-old Italian known as "La Bomba" (the bomb) because of his powerful, aggressive style on the ski slopes, is the favourite in a field that includes a strong Austrian contingent and Swiss all-around star Pirmin Zurbriggen.

1988 Winter Olympics

Rothenburger finished in 1 minute, 17.65 seconds, breaking the world record of 1:18.11 set by Kania in Calgary in December. Kania was .05 seconds behind, Blair was third in 1:18.31, and East German Andrea Ehrig was fourth in 1:19.75.

In Alpine skiing, the medal battle has been between Switzerland and resurgent Austria. With Schneider's victory Friday, the gold score was 3-3, and two of the Swiss golds belong to the 23-year-old farm girl, who also won the giant slalom.

MEDAL TABLE

CALGARY (AP) — Total medals after events Friday, 13th full day of competition at the Winter Olympics:

Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
The Soviet Union	10	9	7	26
East Germany	8	7	4	19
Switzerland	3	5	4	12
Austria	3	4	2	9
West Germany	2	3	2	7
Finland	4	0	2	6
The United States	2	1	2	5
The Netherlands	1	2	2	5
Norway	0	3	2	5
Sweden	3	0	1	4
Canada	0	1	3	4
Italy	1	0	2	3
Yugoslavia	0	2	1	3
Czechoslovakia	0	1	2	3
France	1	0	1	2
Japan	0	0	1	1

Witt's artistry vs Thomas' athleticism in figure skating

CALGARY (R) — Despite Katarina Witt's artistic superiority, her jumping could be just as decisive in her "Duel to Carmen" with Debi Thomas for the Olympic figure skating gold medal Saturday night.

That is, unless Thomas' coach Alex McGowan is right and the judges have already decided the Olympic titleholder is so much better artistically that technique will not matter.

McGowan was distressed after the short programmes Thursday that Thomas was marked down for artistry. "It hurt to see her skate so well and get dropped on artistic marks."

"It worries me when I see my skater not receiving what she deserves. I feel that could happen again Saturday," he said.

The 20-year-old American's supreme athleticism gives her a big technical edge, but the draw for the free skating, in which she and Witt both skate to music from the opera "Carmen," dictates the East German must match her.

After Witt's victory over Thomas in the short programme, the American leads overall with 2.0 points to 2.2 for Witt. With 1.0 to be added for the free programme winner and 2.0 for the runner-up, one of them will almost certainly

be crowned. On Saturday Witt, 22, will skate second in the final group of six, with Thomas last.

Witt must give her all, and that means a clean triple loop, a jump that has often been a problem to her in the past.



Debi Thomas

"She's not comfortable with the triple loop but she is forced to put it in," McGowan said. "If she does it, she deserves to win. That's fine with us. We want to see the best skater win."

The loop would give Witt five triple jumps, but even with that, she cannot match the triple toe loop-triple toe loop combination that Thomas does early in her routine.

The move gives Thomas a technical edge. "When you take on the champion, you have to do something better than the champion, something she cannot do," McGowan explained.

Both contenders were pleased with their draws. "I think it is good that I will start first," Witt said. "I know I will have to do a full and perfect programme."

"I received a lot of flowers after the short. I think that is a good omen for the final," she added.

Thomas said: "It's probably the best draw I could have from the point of view of getting good scores. It's a long wait after the warmup but another way of looking at it is that I am ending the Olympics."

"If I skate as cleanly as my short, I'll be happy with my performance. I'd like to be at my best here."

International conference set up on dope in sport

CALGARY (R) — Sports representatives and government officials from all over the world will meet in Montreal in June to thrash out a common approach to the growing problem of doping in sport.

The formation of the world conference on doping control was announced Friday by Canadian Sports Minister Otto Jelinek and Prince Alexandre de Merode, chairman of the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) medical commission.

They told a news conference the Montreal meeting from June 27 to 29 would make proposals for the IOC to consider during the Seoul Olympics starting in September.

"The conference will make recommendations on a common approach to doping controls,

sanctions, random testing and the roles of governments and the international federations," Jelinek said.

He said the problem of doping in sport could not be attacked by the present disjointed approach. "We haven't all been pulling on the same rope," he said. "You can't have one rule in one country and one in another."

Jelinek said the conference,

which would be followed up with further meetings, had been made possible because of a greater international awareness that the problem must be brought under control.

Jelinek said government officials from more than 20 countries all around the world would be invited to discuss the problem with representatives of the international sporting community.

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3. All tenders must be delivered to the office of Zarqa River Basin Project, 7th Circle, Alwaha Stores Building, Third Floor, P.O. Box 2099 Amman - Jordan.
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Haj Hassan opens new premises of prominent transport company

AMMAN (Petra) — Transport and Telecommunications Minister Khaled Al Haj Hassan Saturday opened the new headquarters of the United Organizational Land Transport Company (UOLTC) at Jabal Hussein in Amman.

The company was established in 1984 with an initial JD 2 million capital, 55 per cent of which is owned by the government.

The company has been entrusted with the task of organising the transportation of goods between different cities and towns of Jordan particularly between Aqaba port and Amman.

The company gives priority in its operations to public sector goods especially those that are vital to public interest.

After the inauguration ceremony, the minister, accompanied by the company's board members and directors, toured different parts of the new building.

Later, the minister chaired a board meeting during which he underlined the fact that the government was giving due concern to the transport sector which



Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khaled Al Haj Hassan Saturday chairs a meeting of the board of directors of Jordan United Land Transport Company (Petra photo)

plays an essential role in the national economy.

Haj Hassan urged the company board to work out successful programmes designed to serve the public and the private sectors since both have interest in the company's operations by holding shares in its capital.

The minister also voiced satisfaction over the company's operations which, he said, has displayed a successful performance

over the past four years.

At the outset of the meeting, Board Chairman Eid Al Fayez voiced the company's appreciation for the government's continued support for the company's activities.

UOLTC Director Sbtewi Jamaani presented to the meeting a detailed report on the nature of the company's operations and its role in organising and facilitating the transportation of goods and different products among Jordanian towns, especially with Aqaba.

Jamaani also presented an outline of the company's future plans.

According to Jamaani, the company distributed dividends totalling JD 597,243 to the shareholders over the past four years and paid the treasury a total of JD 537,994 in taxes during that period.

The company transported 9,625,194 tonnes of goods from Aqaba to Iraqi towns and cities during the past four years and a total of 10,574,135 tonnes of Jordanian phosphate from various mines to Aqaba.

The company whose shares are owned by the private and public sectors has been instrumental in organising transport operations in the Kingdom, offering equal opportunities to lorries owned by individuals and organisations, Jamaani said.

He added that the company also supervises the loading and unloading of goods at Aqaba in cooperation with the Jordanian Ports Corporation.

Government to issue bonds worth JD 9m

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet has decided to issue new development bonds worth JD 9 million to raise funds for the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ).

An official statement said that WAJ will use the funds to finance a number of projects designed to exploit underground water for irrigating lands and for drinking purposes.

Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, Feb. 20, '88 and ending Wednesday, Feb. 24, '88. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	355	460	1.290	1.300	1.000
Petra Bank	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	915	1651	1.840	1.800	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	5260	8464	1.630	1.600	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	7802	9384	1.170	1.200	1.000
Housing Bank	715	1151	1.590	1.610	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	—	—	—	—	1.000
Cairo Amman Bank	465	13445	28.500	29.000	5.000
Bank of Jordan	2651	43257	16.400	16.320	5.000
Arab Bank	890	105785	119.000	118.500	10.000
Jordan National Bank	5195	12624	2.430	2.430	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	13600	16600	1.210	1.200	1.000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	3578	4873	1.870	1.860	1.000
Finance and Credit Corporation	18250	11365	0.630	0.620	1.000
National Financial Investments	3740	5653	1.500	1.550	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	23424	18737	0.780	0.810	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	—	—	—	—	1.000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	—	—	—	—	2.000
Al Mashrek Exchange	—	—	—	—	10.000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Jordan French Insurance	8422	47420	5.430	6.000	1.000
REPCO Life Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	3700	3700	1.000	1.000	1.000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	1350	1485	1.100	1.100	1.000
Al-Jadid Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Philadelpia Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jerusalem Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Universal Insurance	14905	10967	0.740	0.740	1.000
General Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Eagle Insurance	—	—	—	—	10.000
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	—	10.000
Al-Jadid Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Ahliya Insurance	6269	8059	1.280	1.280	1.000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Services and industries					
General Investments	150	195	1.300	1.300	1.000
Inna for Investment and Financial Facilities	12653	7845	0.620	0.620	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqaba)	17680	7813	0.450	0.440	1.000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	6050	2602	0.440	0.430	1.000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	12800	4224	0.330	0.330	1.000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	4343	2746	0.630	0.650	1.000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	115846	20311	0.710	0.690	1.000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Tajero	48530	15807	0.860	0.830	1.000
Jordanian Electric Power	5043	7447	1.470	1.470	1.000
Irbid District Electricity	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab International Hotels	—	—	—	—	1.000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1.000
General Owners Federation Office	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	11600	9945	0.880	0.870	1.000
Jordan Press Foundation	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Press and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Dar Al Shab Press, Printing and Publishing	40350	16966	0.430	0.410	1.000
Jordan Dairy	7287	7466	1.020	1.030	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	7480	15846	2.160	2.080	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	252643	382976	1.470	1.530	1.000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	3240	7776	2.390	2.400	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intaj)	14617	21803	1.500	1.490	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	500	2192	4.450	4.360	1.000
Jordan Kuwait for Agricultural Products	—	—	—	—	1.000
Aladdin Industries	54200	73808	1.360	1.340	1.000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	53950	103950	1.960	1.930	1.000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Ceramics	6610	6923	1.040	1.060	1.000
Chemical Industries	65651	116641	1.740	1.660	1.000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	21450	15687	0.740	0.730	1.000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	8506	13074	1.570	1.470	1.000
National Steel Industries	120955	336900	2.690	2.800	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	57166	111487	1.970	1.960	5.000
Chemical Engineering	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	4588	32732	7.140	7.120	1.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	246700	56357	0.210	0.230	1.000
National Industries	5063	2553	0.500	0.510	1.000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	10475	3774	0.380	0.350	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	33470	43736	1.300	1.330	1.000
Livestock and Poultry	581	418	0.720	0.720	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	7805	9156	1.240	1.170	1.000
Rafid Industrial for Plastic Bags	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	8219	25346	3.100	3.000	1.000
Jordan Rockwood Industries	38600	26388	0.690	0.680	1.000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	—	—	—	—	1.000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1.000
Woolen Industries	2100	1807	0.860	0.850	1.000
Jordan Tanning	—	—	—	—	5.000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	12	163	13.500	13.550	1.000
Max Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	26090	26419	1.020	1.020	1.000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	30055	27971	0.940	0.930	1.000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	15400	42511	3.000	2.990	1.000
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	66409	68979	1.050	1.030	1.000
Jordan Cement Factories	5288	5402	1.040	1.050	1.000
Jordan Glass Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Grand total	1,654,098	2,035,192			

Nickel price soars

LONDON (R) — The London Metal Exchange (LME) Friday limited the amount traders may charge each other to borrow nickel as an extremely tight market in the metal sent prices soaring.

LME Chairman Christopher Green said traders could not charge more than \$100 a tonne to lend nickel, after charges up to \$240 a tonne were reported earlier in the week.

In times of shortage traders cash in, making arrangements amongst themselves to cover operators who are short. In 1985, just before a crisis halted LME trading in tin, the exchange set a limit how much could be charged to lend tin for one day.

Earlier Friday, the LME board met to consider whether there might be an attempt to corner the market, but decided that a genuine shortage had caused the price rise of recent days.

Later, the LME suspended the first afternoon trading session or "ring" as brokers offered to pay as much as \$15,000 a tonne but none wanted to sell.

A delayed second ring saw the metal traded at \$10,000 and \$11,000 a tonne.

The price has risen more than \$1,000 in two days and Friday's morning bids equated to \$6.80 a pound, close to record free market levels of 19 years ago.

Nickel is mainly used in making stainless steel, for which demand has been unexpectedly strong recently following a period when producers cut supplies. Nations where nickel is mined include Australia, Canada, Cuba and the Soviet Union.

Producers will be worried about the steep price rise.

Walter Curlock, a vice-presi-

dent of Inco Ltd., the world's biggest nickel producing company with 34 per cent of the market, said in Frankfurt earlier this month that if nickel became too expensive it would be substituted by cheaper metals.

Stocks held in LME warehouses had fallen to 2,754 tonnes at the end of last week from 4,584 tonnes at end-December.

Up until 1973 and the first oil crisis nickel had enjoyed two decades of uninterrupted growth in Western consumption at the rate of about six per cent annually.

Producers had kept abreast of consumption with difficulty. During this time prices shot up to \$7 a pound in 1969 on the volatile free market when strikes in Canada — the main supplier — caused a shortage.

But the nickel industry was hurt in the 1970s when OPEC quadrupled oil prices, which raised production costs and tilted the West towards recession.

An industry which had invested to meet rapid growth found itself fighting for a share of very slow growth. Many companies cut capacity in the 1980s.

When nickel trading began on the LME in 1969, it was against a background of producer hostility.

Producers preferred their own pricing system which offered consumers a degree of price stability and were concerned that an LME pricing system would be plagued by short-term speculative volatility.

Vatican seeks more funds

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Vatican appealed for more money from the faithful as it released a financial statement saying the administrative headquarters of the Roman Catholic Church had a \$56.7 million deficit in 1986, according to a report published Friday.

Cardinal John Krol said a 15-man council of cardinals on which he sits decided to release the information to encourage more contributions from Roman Catholics. The church counts 840 million members worldwide.

The Washington Post said in Friday's editions the statement was released by the Washington-based National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Similar, but less detailed figures were disclosed by the Vatican last October.

The October Vatican statement projected the 1987 deficit at \$59.3 million, which was down from the \$63 million forecast in March 1987. It said the projected increase was halted thanks to increased contributions and strict controls on spending.

The \$56.7 million figure represents a shortfall in the Vatican's operating budget in 1986. The deficit was met by taking \$32 million from Peter's Pence, the

Vatican's annual worldwide collection intended for charitable purposes, and \$24.7 million more from the fund's reserve, the Post said.

The Peter's Pence collection for the first nine months of 1987 totalled \$35.8 million, an increase attributed at least in part of repeated pleas for help, the newspaper said.

The document revealed that Vatican expenses in 1986 totalled nearly \$114 million, with the largest chunk, \$58 million, spent for personnel. That included \$50.6 million for the Vatican's 2,395 employees and \$7.3 million for pension payments to 885 retirees.

Other major expenses included \$11.7 million for publishing, \$11 million in expenditures related to investments, \$10.4 million for equipment and operating costs of Vatican Radio and \$9.7 million for administrative expenses ranging from stationery to the costs of the worldwide synods of bishops.

Operating income comes from investments, publishing, endowments and Vatican Radio's sales of tapes of papal speeches and radio programmes.

"We need complete accounting," Krol told U.S. bishops at their annual meeting last fall.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — Although Saturday trading covered 407 contracts and involved 51 public-shareholding companies, both the volume and the number of shares which changed hands were weak.

With the overall volume of trading standing at JD 340,747, the highest figure of JD 35,557 was recorded by Universal Chemical Industries followed by National Steel Industries for JD 30,472. 12 other companies registered a volume between JD 20,000-JD 11,000 while all the rest were below JD 10,000.

Noting that the overall number of shares traded amounted to 242,748 shares, National Shipping Lines topped the list for 20,900 shares followed by National Cable and Wire Manufacturing for 19,350 shares. Except for few others, the majority of the companies recorded trading in the range of 5,000 shares.

As to prices, the shares of only two companies fluctuated within a noticeable range. Arab Bank shares traded as high as JD 118.500 and as low as JD 118.000 while shares of Jordan-French Insurance moved between JD 6.250-JD 6.000.

No trading in development bonds took place Saturday.

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1988

YOUR HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Your judgment may not be at its best today, so avoid taking any risks or making any snap decisions. Pay particular attention to the needs of those around you today, and inspire some good will.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19): Conditions at home may not be particularly pleasant, but you can easily find a way to solve this problem. This evening should be a happy one.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20): You'll have the opportunity to make some valuable contacts today, so be cheerful and courteous. Don't overspend your budget.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21): Try to do whatever your male desires, since this person usually yields to your wishes. Drive with great care if you go out together tonight.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21): A friend may not be able to give you the support you had counted on, but a business associate could give you some help.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21): Don't get involved in an investment scheme which could jeopardize your financial security. Pay special attention to your health at this time.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 21): Be sure you solve any business problems before you go out for a good time with your friends. Don't take any risks this evening.

LIBRA (Sept. 22 to Oct. 22): Something worthwhile can come of a small gathering with congenial friends in your home today. Avoid any arguments tonight.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Any tedious, time-consuming duties should be postponed until a more propitious time. Take care of your correspondence this evening.

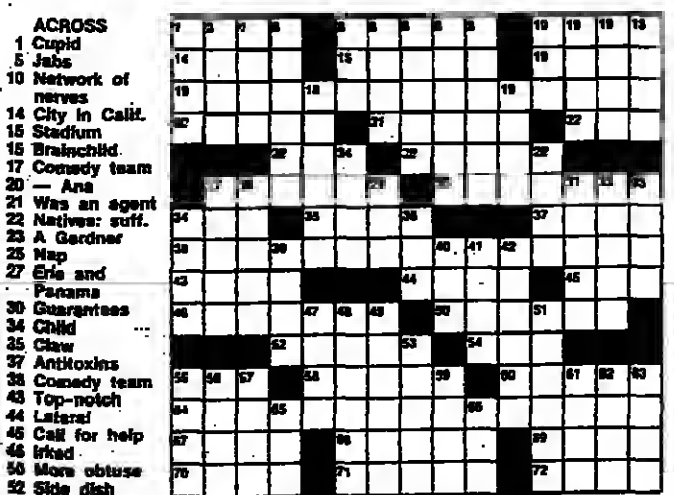
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Keep away from costly amusements today, and concentrate on practical matters. Set up a better budget tonight.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20): Don't get into an argument over a trip you've been planning. Go out with some of your best friends for a jolly night on the town.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19): Avoid becoming involved in a heated argument between a stranger and someone who is only trying to do their job.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20): Don't let anyone talk you into getting involved in a project which would only waste your time and money. Avoid a greedy person.

THE Daily Crossword by Frank Goery



- ACROSS
- 1 Cupid
 - 2 Joke
 - 3 Network of nerves
 - 4 City in Calif.
 - 5 Stadium
 - 6 Brainchild
 - 7 Comedy team
 - 8 Ana
 - 9 Was an agent
 - 10 Naïveté suff.
 - 11 A Gardner
 - 12 Map
 - 13 Erie and Panama
 - 14 Guarantees
 - 15 Child
 - 16 Cliché
 - 17 Antitoxins
 - 18 Comedy team
 - 19 Top-notch
 - 20 Lateral
 - 21 Call for help
 - 22 Irked
 - 23 Many obscure
 - 24 Side dish
 - 25 Hit
 - 26 Swine
 - 27 Cut down in size
 - 28 Smarmy
 - 29 "dressed"
 - 30 Comedy team
 - 31 Shakespeare's mizze
 - 32 "Far —" (classical song)
 - 33 Arson poison
 - 34 Bard
 - 35 Rastrian
 - 36 Alter prank or joke
- DOWN
- 1 Fanciest
 - 2 Bumper deer
 - 3 Accessible
 - 4 Cane
 - 5 Golf term
 - 6 Crude metals
 - 7 Relative
 - 8 Stom. topper
 - 9 Fabric
 - 10 Grande
 - 11 Border
 - 12 Eng. river
 - 13 Comfort
 - 14 Castro's city
 - 15 Peasants
 - 16 Warglike
 - 17 Thrust
 - 18 Kind of salmon var.
 - 19 Concerning
 - 20 Vi
 - 21 Singer Della
 - 22 Blunder
 - 23 Back talk
 - 24 Musical
 - 25 Weights: abbr.
 - 26 NY team
 - 27 Cheer
 - 28 Coach river
 - 29 Leasne
 - 30 Suborder of galls
 - 31 Jobless
 - 32 Peace
 - 33 Cleverland's
 - 34 Cavalryman of Algiers
 - 35 Ledger entry
 - 36 Peace
 - 37 Exalted
 - 38 Gaelic
 - 39 Canvas shelter
 - 40 Benyan a.s.
 - 41 Belg. river
 - 42 Soak flux
 - 43 Done to poets

Peanuts



Soviet officials play down ethnic unrest

Casualties reported in Azerbaijan disturbances

By Robin Lodge
Reuters

MOSCOW — A number of people have been injured in clashes between Armenians and Azerbaijanis in a disputed region of Soviet Azerbaijan, officials there said.

The officials, speaking by telephone from Stepanakert, capital of the territory of Nagorno-Karabakh, told Reuters crowds of people were massed on the streets, while factories and schools had been closed.

The officials said Soviet Deputy Public Prosecutor Alexander Katusev was investigating the clashes, which they said occurred some 10 days ago in an outlying part of the region.

One official, who declined to be named, said huge crowds of people carrying placards demanding the reunification of the territory with Armenia, from which it was removed in 1923, were holding meetings in the street.

"There have been meetings at every enterprise, at every working collective, and at district councils. All people demanded reunification," she said.

She said one banner reading "Karabakh is crying while Moscow remains silent" had been removed after an appeal for calm by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev was read out on television and radio Friday.

The officials varied in their accounts of how Gorbachev's appeal had been received. "The people took it very warmly. There have been no incidents," one official said.

But another said Gorbachev's address had had no effect. "Nothing has changed, the people stayed out in the streets. There are masses of them in the square," the official said.

The officials denied reports that troops had been sent into Nagorno-Karabakh to control the situation.

"At first there were a lot of police. But then we said we would regulate the meetings ourselves. Since then there has been virtually no police presence and there have been no violations of order. All the protests are peaceful."

They said Kremlin officials Petr Demichev and Georgy Razumovsky, sent to the region earlier this week to deal with the unrest, had informed people of a Politburo resolution which ruled that no territorial changes would be considered.

"Perhaps some of the most aware people tried to think about that, but the masses expect a new resolution from Moscow," one official said.

In a speech in the Armenian capital, Yerevan, Wednesday — the text of which reached Moscow Saturday — another senior Kremlin official, Vladimir Dolgikh, said the Politburo had met in urgent session last Sunday.

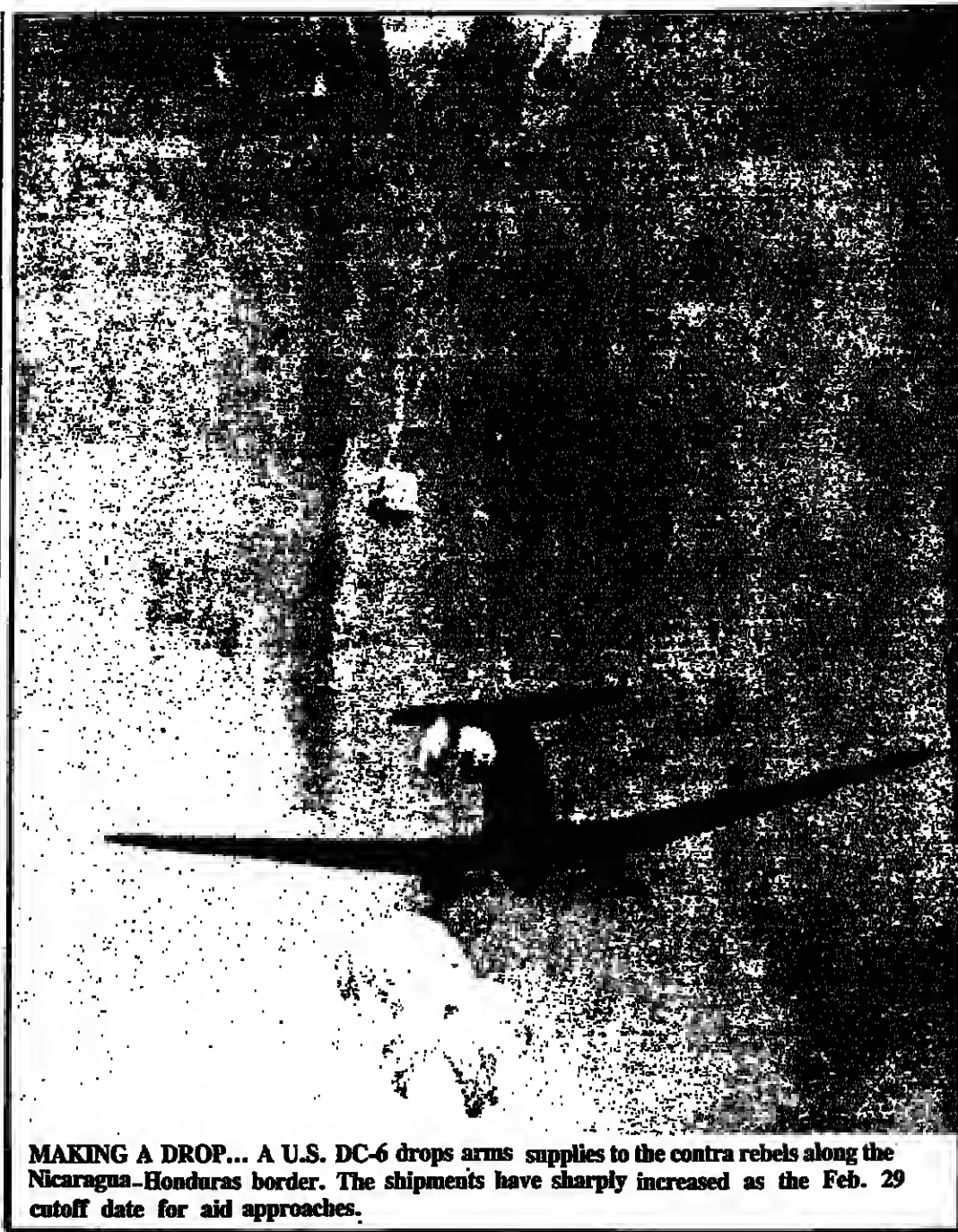
"The Politburo demanded that the central committees of the Armenian and Azerbaijani parties took every measure to normalise the situation," Dolgikh said.

"One million protesters"

Demonstrations by tens of thousands of Armenians in Yerevan in support of their compatriots in Nagorno-Karabakh have been held over the past nine days. Eyewitnesses said Friday that an estimated million people packed the streets.

"They're coming from all over Armenia and even from Russian cities like Rostov and Krasnodar," one Yerevan resident said by telephone.

The demonstrators were again on the streets Saturday, in direct challenge to Gorbachev's appeal for order. The show of disobedience was apparently backed by Armenian party chief Karen Demichyan, who addressed the crowds Friday.



MAKING A DROP... A U.S. DC-6 drops arms supplies to the contra rebels along the Nicaragua-Honduras border. The shipments have sharply increased as the Feb. 29 cutoff date for aid approaches.

COLUMNS 768

Sudanese beheaded in Jeddah over girl

RIYADH (R) — A Sudanese man, who stabbed to death a colleague in a row over a girl in Sudan, was beheaded in Jeddah after Friday's noon prayers, the Saudi Interior Ministry said Saturday. Mubarak Fadel Al-Mawla Abdul-Ghani was the sixth convicted murderer to be executed in Saudi Arabia in two weeks.

U.S. judge dismisses \$1.5b lawsuit

ORLANDO, Florida (AP) — The widow of Challenger astronaut Michael Smith cannot sue the U.S. government for \$1.5 billion in damages because her husband was on military duty when the space shuttle exploded, a judge has ruled. U.S. District Judge Patricia Fawcett cited earlier court decisions holding that American military personnel or their dependents could not sue the government for injury or death while on active service. Smith, the Challenger's pilot, was a navy captain who was assigned to NASA in 1981. "Smith's death occurred during activity incident to his military service," the judge said in removing the government as a defendant in the suit filed by Jane J. Smith.

Sotheby's to auction Soviet art

LONDON (AP) — The Soviet Union will have its first international art auction in July when Sotheby's holds a sale of contemporary Soviet works, the auction house announced Friday. Lord Gowrie, former arts minister in the British government and now chairman of the world's largest auctioneers, said about 100 paintings by more than 20 contemporary Soviet painters will be put up for sale July 7 at the International Trade Centre. "I hope this will be the first of a series of auctions," said Sergei Popov, an official in the Soviet Ministry of Culture, who joined Gowrie at a news conference. "We chose Sotheby's because they have an international name," said Popov through an interpreter. Asked if the auctioned works would be of "unofficial" artists as well as those whose work is approved by the Soviet Union of artists, Popov replied: "There are no longer any unofficial artists. For the past three years there have been no restrictions on any style or tendency in art."

James Bond moves to Mexico

LONDON (R) — Secret agent James Bond is packing his licence to kill and moving to Mexico City to save money, the Star newspaper said Saturday. The tabloid said it had become too expensive to go on filming the exploits of agent 007 in Britain. The decision to leave London's Pinewood Studios, where the Bond movies have been made for 25 years, to Mexico would save producers more than three million pounds sterling (\$5.3 million), it said. But Bond productions will still be a largely British affair, and producers plan to take British technicians and actors south of the Rio Grande, the Star said.

'Uncle Sam, statesman — and sucker'

NEW YORK (AP) — Excerpts from an editorial entitled "Uncle Sam, statesman — and sucker" in Saturday's editions of the New York Times said: "Every American president has to decide what the nation's interests are in a given foreign country and how much influence the U.S. can have over that country's policies. President Reagan this week demonstrated reasonable success in his calculations concerning South Korea — and ugly failure in his miscalculations concerning South Africa. South Korea took another step toward democracy, inaugurating a president elected in a relatively free and fair vote. Washington has had influence in the process and used it constructively. South Africa moved sharply backward. It banned the activities of the leading anti-apartheid organisations, cutting off virtually all nonviolent means of protest. In this case, America has negligible influence. Yet it has deluded itself with its policy of 'constructive engagement.' Now it succeeds only in tying America more closely to the oppressors in Pretoria... Reagan administration officials fell into the trap of thinking that they could develop a common anti-communist interest with Pretoria... the important thing, the administration reckoned, was not to scold Pretoria publicly. 'Such folly, like the larger delusion of 'constructive engagement,' will impose a destructive price on future administrations."

Workers discover 2,000-year-old road

TORTOSA, Spain (R) — Workers repairing a Spanish country lane found part of a perfectly-preserved 2,000-year-old Roman road underneath it, officials said Wednesday. The three kilometre stretch of the Via Augusta, which ran from Rome to Cadix on the southwestern tip of Spain, was found near the town of Tortosa in northeast Spain last week and is now being examined by archaeologists. "It is in perfect condition," said Ramon Miravalles, in charge of cultural affairs in Tortosa, and one of the most important Roman finds in Spain of recent years. The only restoration it needed was cleaning off topsoil. He said the road so far uncovered was clearly identifiable, being the standard Roman width of 8.7 metres, made of "Roman concrete" reinforced by diagonally-laid stones with drains running alongside. There could be a much longer stretch to be found in the area, Miravalles said.

AIDS commission wants additional \$1b

WASHINGTON (AP) — The chairman of President Ronald Reagan's AIDS commission wants to spend an additional \$1 billion a year to fight the disease, but the White House budget director said Thursday that Reagan's budget proposal was big enough. The AIDS panel director, retired Navy Adm. James D. Watkins, asked Wednesday for the federal increase plus \$1 billion in new state and local spending. He said 75 per cent of the \$2 billion was needed just to combat intravenous drug abuse, which spreads the deadly virus. Reagan has asked congress for \$1.3 billion to combat AIDS in the United States for fiscal 1989, up from \$951 million for this year.

22 arrested on sex charges

MANILA (R) — At least 22 foreigners caught naked in bed with young Filipino boys were arrested on suspicion of sexually abusing children Saturday, Immigration Commissioner Miriam Santiago told reporters. Americans, Britons, Belgians, Canadians, Dutch, Germans, Spaniards and one Japanese, ranging in age from 55 to 60, were detained in a series of raids in the tourist resort of Pagsanjan Town, south of Manila, together with 19 Filipino boys. "They were caught naked in bed with some of the children," said immigration intelligence officer Plaridel Ferman. Assorted sexual gadgets and pornographic photographs of teenage boys were seized in the raids, Santiago said. The foreigners refused to be interviewed and covered their faces when photographers tried to take their pictures.

Former Dunhill tobacco chairman dies

LONDON (AP) — Mary Dunhill, the last surviving child of Alfred Dunhill, founder of the tobacco and pipe-making company, has died at the age of 81, death notices said Saturday. Miss Dunhill, the only daughter among Dunhill's four children, joined the board of Dunhill Holdings in 1944, explaining "they were rather short of men," and in 1961 became chairman, succeeding her eldest brother, Alfred. The cause of Miss Dunhill's death Wednesday was not revealed. "Miss Mary," as she was known, continued to work at her office two days a week. Her autobiography, "Our family business," was published in 1979. She is survived by her second husband, Rex Lane, and her two daughters by her first marriage to Geoffrey Holman, who died in 1953.

NATO assess strength

NAPLES, Italy (AP) — NATO's naval commander in southern Europe said Friday the allies would defeat the Soviets to the Mediterranean even if NATO was hit by a surprise attack.

"Their surface forces are easy to find, and would not last long after the start of hostilities," said Adm. Sergio Majoli. "Their danger lies in being able to launch a pre-emptive strike and causing catastrophic damage to major NATO units before we are granted political approval to strike back."

"As a defensive alliance, we are at a severe disadvantage during the opening stages of hostilities," Majoli said Friday at a seminar on security in the central and western Mediterranean.

Adm. James B. Busey, the American commander in chief of allied forces in southern Europe, told the same seminar the Warsaw Pact has a clear superiority over NATO troops in the region.

He disputed recent comments by Soviet Defence Minister Dmitry T. Yozov that a numerical edge for Warsaw pact forces in central Europe was offset by NATO superiority in southern Europe.

The Warsaw Pact has more warplanes and about 71 divisions of troops facing 41 allied divisions in northern Italy, Turkey and Greece, said Busey.

Majoli noted that the Mediterranean is more important to NATO than the Soviets.

Reagan blurs talk of U.S. intervention in Panama

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President Ronald Reagan says he has no plan to intervene militarily in Panama in what U.S. officials viewed as a situation brought on at least in part by drug-smuggling indictments of strongman Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega.

But the State Department said Friday the United States will continue to recognise Eric Arturo Delvalle as president of Panama, despite a parliamentary vote to oust him and replace him with Manuel Solis Palma, who has been education minister.

The National Assembly moved against Delvalle after he tried to dismiss Noriega, who was indicted by grand juries in Miami and Tampa, Florida, earlier this month.

Amid the continuing political instability, Vice President George Bush said the United States should do "whatever is

necessary" to protect American interests in the Central American country, which includes the militarily and economically vital Panama Canal.

"Noriega's gone bad, and he's proved he's trafficked in narcotics," Bush said. "... Noriega should go and in my view he will go."

Reagan said he did not think there was "any appetite on the part of anyone there, including Noriega, to take on our troops."

The president said the United States did not instigate Delvalle's move Thursday. But he also said U.S. officials had been "very much aware of it."

"Intervention not answer"

Asked whether the United States was contemplating military intervention there, Reagan replied, "oo. I don't think that's an answer." He declined to discuss

other alternatives, saying: "We're not prepared to come up with any answers as yet."

Reagan said he thought "there are some limits on what we can do," but that "we're looking at that situation, and our people are meeting on it to see if there's anything we can do."

Bush stopped short of calling for military intervention, however, saying the United States' past history of intervention in Latin American affairs is "what's hurting us in some areas now." Some 10,000 American troops are stationed in Panama.

In Congress, the Reagan administration got conflicting advice on how to handle the situation.

Senate Democrats urged caution, while D'Amato advocated the trade embargo and Senator Jesse Helms called Noriega "a bun" and said "he ought to be thrown out."

Delvalle vs. Noriega

In Mexico City, a number of Latin American leaders have expressed support for Delvalle, but Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega is backing Noriega, in what is seen as another attempt to rile the United States.

A communique published Friday in the Nicaraguan newspaper Barricada said Ortega "has assured Geo. Noriega that the Panamanian people, facing threats, blackmail and the danger of American troop intervention, could count on the militant and combative solidarity of the people of Sandino."

The communique from Nicaragua's Sandinista government said Ortega, in a telephone call to Noriega Thursday night, offered "unconditional solidarity to save the sovereignty of Panama in these moments when the Amer-

ican government is trying to kill the spirit of Tornijos."

Gen. Omar Torrijos, the nationalist leader after staging a 1968 coup in Panama, became a national hero by negotiating with the United States the transfer of ownership to Panama in 1999 of the American-built Panama Canal. He died in a plane crash in 1981.

In Panama City, Delvalle has vowed to remain President of Panama and called for a national strike to repudiate the leadership of Noriega.

Also Friday, Noriega accused the United States of instigating the failed effort to end his rule, accusing Washington of waging a campaign of "psychological warfare" against him.

The Panamanian legislature voted Friday to oust Delvalle after the president tried to fire Noriega.

Hopes of breakthrough in East-West security

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — Soviet and U.S. delegates to a stalled East-West conference on European security and cooperation said Friday the meeting could pick up momentum in the coming weeks as a draft final document begins to take shape.

In a plenary speech, the head of the Soviet delegation said East and West had agreed on some language in the field of human rights, but a U.S. delegate said the West would still like to see more concrete progress on human rights issues in the East bloc countries.

"By now, the outlines for agreements on key issues... within the (conference) framework that are possible at the current stage of East-West relations have been determined with sufficient clarity," Soviet chief delegate Yuri Kashlev said in his plenary statement.

In January when the conference resumed after a five week Christmas break, Kashlev offered little indication of progress on a final document.

But Friday he said the meeting "is on the threshold of taking major political decisions."

The Soviet diplomat warned the West against taking what he called "extremist positions." He said the "all or nothing tactics" of some Western delegations could lead to the collapse of results to date.

U.S. deputy chief delegate Robert F. Frowick told the closed door plenary session Friday that despite little progress in drafting the final document in the five weeks since the conference resumed Jan. 22, "there have been at least some initial signs of movement," in the last few days.

"Most recent developments have given us cause for hope and expectation but we have to see yet tangible results," Frowick said in his speech.

Delegates from 35 countries, including the United States, Canada and all European countries except Albania have been meeting in Vienna since November 1986 to review compliance with the 1975 Helsinki Accords on military security, economic cooperation and humanitarian issues.

The issue of human rights has been the main stumbling block at the Vienna meeting. The West claims that the East is stalling on human rights issues or at least trying to put forward watered-down resolutions on human rights for inclusion in the final document.

S. Africa police arrest 14 whites

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — Police Friday arrested 14 white women protesting the crackdown on black opposition groups and issued a banning order to the last top official of the United Democratic Front still operating freely.

At the university of Cape Town, 2,000 students and staff assembled to denounce the government's bans on political activity by the UDF, the country's largest anti-apartheid coalition, and 17 other groups.

"The battle has only just begun," said the Rev. Allain Boesak, one of the UDF's founders, at the campus rally. "We have decided we will resist. Our commitment starts right now."

The 14 members of Black Sash civil rights group were arrested as they carried placards in Durban. They were taken to police headquarters, told they were being charged with participating in illegal gathering, then released.

Early Friday, Azhar Cachalia, treasurer of the United Democratic Front, was served with a restriction order prohibiting him

from speaking to the press, publishing any statement or participating in activities of the UDF or other anti-apartheid organisations.

Cachalia had been the only UDF Executive Committee member not in hiding, in custody or restricted from UDF activities. The 5-year-old coalition has 600 affiliates with about 2 million members.

When the government Wednesday banned the UDF and 17 other opposition groups from political activity, it also issued restrictive orders against 18 senior black leaders, including UDF co-presidents Archie Gumede and Albertina Sisulu.

In a related development, the Pietermaritzburg Chamber of Commerce met Friday with Law and Order Minister Adrian Vlok to discuss the feuding between UDF supporters and members of the Zulu political organisation, Inkatha. More than 400 people have been killed in the past year in fighting between the groups for control of black areas in Natal province.

Korean dissidents reject amnesty; continue protests

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Dissident leaders on Saturday rejected a government amnesty for political prisoners as a trick and said about 1,200 still remain in jail.

The National Coalition for Democracy called on the government to release all political prisoners, including several top dissident leaders who were not allowed to leave prison. They rejected the amnesty as a deception.

"Release all prisoners of conscience," the main coalition of dissident groups said in a statement.

The new government of President Roh Tae-Woo released 2,134 people from jails Saturday and 5,100 others had their sentences reduced or their civic rights restored. Some 125 political dissidents were among those freed and 1,606 others had their sentences reduced or regained their rights.

The rest of the people included in the amnesty were common criminals. Dissidents and other prisoners were released early Saturday from prisons in Seoul and other cities.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
1987 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

THE NUMBER IS THE KEY

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 7 3
♥ J 5 2
♦ K 7 2
♣ A Q J 5 2
EAST
♠ 10 8 6 4 2
♥ Q 9 5
♦ K 8 7 4
♣ Q 10
SOUTH
♠ 9 8
♥ J 10 8 3
♦ K 10 9 6
♣ A K J
A 9 6 3
A 6 5 4
♠ 7 3

The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 NT Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Four of ♠
We are always wary about giving an answer when someone asks us about the right way to play a particular suit combination. We were burned many years ago when we were given the club holding that appears in the diagram and we replied that we would finesse the jack.

Considered in isolation, this reply was undoubtedly correct. In the context of the whole hand, however, we could not have been further from the truth!

With a combined 27 high-card

points, it might seem the hand should present no problem. Certainly, that is the way declarer approached his task after West led a spade against three no trump.

He captured East's queen of spades with the king and led a club to the jack. Despite the fact he had two stoppers in the suit, East made a farsighted play when he held up the king. Declarer was a dead duck. With only one side entry to dummy, there was no way he could make more than two club tricks for a grand total of eight tricks.

Our advice, and declarer's play of the hand, was correct if four tricks were needed from the club suit, or if there was no side entry. Here, however, declarer needed only three tricks from the suit and he had an outside entry in the king of diamonds.

The way to ensure the contract, assuming clubs were to break no worse than 4-2, is to force the defenders to win the first club trick. Declarer can accomplish this easily enough by ducking the first club on the table!

Assume East wins and shifts to a diamond. Declarer rises with the ace and now takes the club finesse. No matter what happens on this trick, declarer is assured of at least three club tricks and his contract.

السلامة